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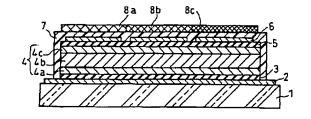
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(54) 【発明の名称】 薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル

(57)【要約】

【課題】 従来のRGBカラー対応の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルにおいて不足していた緑色発光成分を補い、製造コストが低く、成膜プロセス工程の簡略化・短縮化を図りながら、再現性確保も容易な薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルを提供する。

【解決手段】 薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルにおける発光層に、黄色発光の $Z_{0.05}M_{8.0.5}S:M_{0.05}S:M_{0.$



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】発光層として、 Zn_{1-x} Mg $_x$ S(0<X<1)からなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴とする薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。

【請求項2】発光層として、 $Z_{n_{1-1}}$ M g_1 S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心としてM n 又はM n 化合物を添加してなる層と、 Z_n S からなる母材に発光中心としてM n 又はM n 化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴とする薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。

【請求項3】発光層として、Zn_{1-X} Mg_X S(O<X <1)からなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合 物を添加してなる層と、SrS、BaS、CaS、Sr $_{1-x}Ba_{x}S(0< X< 1)$, $Sr_{1-x}Ca_{x}S(0<$ X<1) 又は Ba_{1-x} Ca_xS (0<X<1) からなる 母材に発光中心としてCe又はCe化合物を添加してな る層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えているこ とを特徴とする薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。 【請求項4】発光層として、Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S(O<X <1)からなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合 物を添加してなる層と、SrGa, S,、BaGa, S 4 CaGa₂S₄ Sr₂Ga₂S₅ Ba₂Ga₂ S₅又はCa₂Ga₂S₅からなる母材に発光中心とし てCe又はCe化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された **積層膜を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴とする薄膜** エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。

【請求項5】発光層として、Zn₁₋₁ Mg₁ S(O<X <1)からなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層と、ZnSからなる母材に発光中心としてTm又はTm化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を少なくとも備えていることを特徴とする薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。

【請求項6】発光面側に、発光層からの光を分光するカラーフィルタが備えられている請求項1、2、3、4又は5記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネル。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、平面薄型ディスプレイとして用いられている薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンス(以下、ELと称する)パネルに関するものである。 【0002】

【従来の技術】情報化産業時代の到来と共に、平面薄型 ディスプレイの需要が高まり、その中でも薄膜ELパネ ルは、長寿命であることから特にFA(Factory Automa tion)用ディスプレイとして注目されている。

【0003】従来の薄膜ELバネルには、発光層に、橙色発光を呈する、ZnSを母材としてこれに発光中心としてMnを添加してなるZnS:Mnを用いたものがあり、このZnS:Mnを発光層に用いることにより、高

輝度で信頼性に優れた表示特性が得られている。そして、この2nS:Mnの発光スペクトルは、500nm台から600nm台から600nm台の波長にまで及んでいるため、この2nS:Mnを発光層に用いたものに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、赤色光および緑色光を取り出すことが可能であり、このような赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせた二色表示マルチカラー薄膜EL表示パネルも検討されている(SID 91 DIG EST pp. 275 ~ 278)。

【0004】さらに最近では、上記のZnS:Mnを発光層に用いた橙色ELバネルに加えて、より豊かな発光色とより高い発光輝度を求め、緑色発光を呈するZnS:Tbや青色発光を呈するSrS:Ce、或いは赤色発光を呈するSrS:Euなどを発光層に用いた緑色、青色、赤色の各画素をマトリクス状に配置した並置方式薄膜ELバネルや、異なる発光色の2枚の薄膜ELバネル基板を貼り合わせる貼り合わせ方式薄膜ELバネル、白色発光を呈する、ZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mnなどの積層膜を発光層に用い、これにカラーフィルタを重ねてカラー化するフィルタ方式薄膜ELバネルなどの開発が盛んである。

【0005】 ZnS: Mn/SrS: Ce/ZnS: Mnの積層膜を発光層に用いた薄膜ELパネルとしては、例えば特開昭62-74986号公報に開示されているものがある。また、このような白色光を発する薄膜ELパネルに、赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタを重ねてカラー化することも検討されている(SID 95 DIGESTpp. 883 ~ 886)。

[0006]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、ZnS:Mnの発光スペクトルは、500nm台から600nm台の波長にまで及んでいるものの、550nm以下の発光強度が弱く、橙色発光であるため、ZnS:Mnを発光層とした薄膜ELパネルに、緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせた場合に得られる緑色光は、黄色に近い緑色で、緑色の色純度があまり良くないという問題がある。

【0007】したがって、上記したZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn積層膜のように、ZnS:Mn層を用いた白色発光の積層膜を発光層に用い、カラーフィルタを重ねてカラー化した薄膜ELパネルでも、緑色発光成分が少なくなり、赤色・緑色・青色のそれぞれのカラーフィルタでその白色発光を分光すると、赤色・骨色の発光に比べ緑色の発光が弱く、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比赤:緑:青=3:7:1が得られないという問題がある。

【0008】具体的に、ZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn積層膜を発光層とした薄膜ELパネルについて説明すると、ZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn積層膜の発光層は、図14に示すような発光ス

ベクトルを示す。同図中実線にて示される特性曲線は、 薄膜ELパネルにカラーフィルタを組み合わせなかった もので、白色光のものである。この白色光を、図15に 示すような波長と透過率の関係を有する赤色・緑色・青 色のカラーフィルタを用いて分光すると、図14のよう に各カラーフィルタに対応した赤色・緑色・青色の発光 スペクトルを呈することとなる。同図中一点鎖線で示さ れる特性曲線が赤色のカラーフィルタを透過したもの、 同図中点線で示される特性曲線が緑色のカラーフィルタ を透過したもの、同図中破線で示される特性曲線が青色 のカラーフィルタを透過したものである。

【0009】このZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn積層膜の発光層を、周波数100Hzの2極性パルス電圧にて駆動したとき、画素輝度で赤:緑:青=18.7cd/m²:29.9cd/m²:4.8cd/m²であり、輝度比に換算すると赤:緑:青=3.9:6.2:1.0となり、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比赤:緑:青=3:7:1が得られないわけである。

【0010】尚、青色発光を呈する発光層材料としては、上記したSrS:Сeの他に、СaGa₂ S₄:СeやZnS:Тmなど数種類があり、それらの発光波長は図16に示すとおりである。この図からも明らかなように、これらのうち上記したSrS:Сeは発光効率が良く、かつ長波長側であるので緑色発光成分を最も補い得るものであるが、やはり、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比を得るものではない。

【0011】また、このような緑色発光成分が少ないと いう問題は、緑色発光画素の画素面積を増やしたり、或 いはZnS:Tbのような緑色発光を呈する層を発光層 に更に積層して緑色成分の発光輝度向上を図ることで解 決できる。しかしながら、前者では、駆動するパネル駆 動用のICドライバの負荷が発光色によって異なってし まうため、負担の大きい緑色の画素面積に合わせた規格 のICドライバが必要となり、製造コストの上昇につな がり、後者では、例えばZnS:Mn/ZnS:Tb/ SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mnの4層、または発光の極性 対称性を考慮するとZnS:Mn/ZnS:Tb/Sr S:Ce/ZnS:Tb/ZnS:Mnの5層の積層化 が必要であり、積層数が増えるため、成膜プロセスが複 雑になると共に、プロセス時間も長くなり、かつ、バラ ツキも大きくなって再現性確保が困難になるなどの不具 合を招来することとなる。

【0012】本発明は、上記に鑑みなされたものであり、その目的は、緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせた場合に得られる緑色光の色純度を従来よりも高めることができる発光輝度の高い薄膜ELパネルを提供することにある。

【0013】また、本発明のその他の目的は、上述の目的を達成し得る薄膜ELパネルの構成を利用して、赤色、および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせた場合に

得られる赤色光、緑色光の各色純度が良好で発光輝度も 高い薄膜ELパネルを提供することにある。

【0014】さらに、本発明のその他の目的は、赤色、緑色および青色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせた場合に得られる赤色光、緑色光、青色光の各色純度が良好で発光輝度も高く、かつ、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比を、緑色発光成分の画素数の増加や、発光層を構成する薄膜の積層数の増加を伴うことなく実現できる薄膜ELパネルを提供することにある。

[0015]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明の請求項1記載の 薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層とし て、Zn_{1-X}Mg_XS(O<X<1)からなる母材に発 光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層を、 少なくとも備えていることを特徴としている。

【0016】本願出願人は、上記の課題を解決するために、発光輝度が高く薄膜ELパネルの発光層として有効なZnS:Mnの発光スペクトルの短波長化を試みた結果、母材のZnSのZnEX(0<X<1)の範囲でMgに置換した Zn_{I-X} MgxSを母材とし、これに発光中心としてMnを添加した Zn_{I-X} MgxS:Mnの発光スペクトルが、ZnS:Mnのものよりも10~20nm短波長の発光色を呈することを見い出した。

【0017】例えばX=0. 250Z $n_{0.5}$ M g $_{0.5}S:Mn$ 、X=0. 50Z $n_{0.5}$ M g $_{0.5}S:M$ n、X=0. 750Z $n_{0.5}$ M g $_{0.5}S:Mn$ の場合、それぞれの発光スペクトルは図13に示すように、X=00Z n S:Mn の発光スペクトルよりそれぞれ約10 n m、15 n m、20 n m、短波長側へピーク波長がシフトしたものとなる。

【0018】したがって、請求項1の発明の薄膜ELパネルでは、上記の Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S (0<X<1) からなる母材に発光中心としてMn XはMn R化合物を添加してなる層(Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S: Mn) を発光層として用いているので、その発光スペクトルは、緑色発光成分が多いものであり、該薄膜ELパネルに緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色純度が高く、かつ高輝度の緑色発光を得ることができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、単層の発光層で、赤色、緑色の各色純度が高く、かつ高輝度の、赤色および緑色の発光が可能な薄膜ELパネルを得ることができる。

【0019】本発明の請求項2記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、 $Z_{n_{l-x}}$ Mgx S(O<X<1) からなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層と、 Z_{n} Sからなる母材に発光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴としている。

【0020】前述したように、ZnS:Mnからなる層

は、橙色発光を呈し、高輝度である。したがって、請求項2の発明の薄膜ELパネルでは、このZnS:Mnからなる層を、上記の Zn_{I-X} Mg_X S:Mnからなる層に積層した積層膜を発光層として用いているので、その発光スペクトルは緑色発光成分および赤色発光成分が共に多いプロードな発光スペクトルとなり、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、赤色の輝度及び色純度を、 Zn_{I-X} Mg_X S:Mn 単層の発光層を用いた構成のものよりも上げることができ、また、従来の<math>ZnS:Mn 単層の発光層を用いた構成のものよりも、緑色の輝度及び色純度を上げることができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、両者に比べて、赤色・緑色共に発光輝度が高く色純度も良い薄膜ELパネルを得ることができる。

【0021】本発明の請求項3記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、 Zn_{1-x} M g_x S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心としてM n 又はM n 化合物を添加してなる層と、S r S、B a S、C a S、S r_{1-x} B a_x S (0 < X < 1)、S r_{1-x} C a_x S (0 < X < 1) 又はB a_{1-x} C a_x S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心としてC e 又はC e 化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴としている。

[0022] SrS, BaS, CaS, SrH Bay S(0 < X < 1), $Sr_{1-X} Ca_X S(0 < X < 1) X$ は Ba_{1-x} Ca_x S(0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光 中心としてCe又はCe化合物を添加してなる層は、青 色発光を呈するものである。つまり、請求項3の発明の 薄膜ELパネルでは、この青色発光を呈する層に、上記 のZn_{1-X} Mg_X S:Mnからなる層を積層した積層膜 を発光層として用いているので、従来のように、緑色発 光画素の画素面積を増やしたり、或いはZnS:Tbの ような緑色発光を呈する層を発光層に更に積層して緑色 成分の発光輝度向上を図ることなく、本来RGBカラー に必要とされる輝度比赤: 緑: 青=3:7:1を得るこ とができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色、 緑色および青色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色 純度が高く、赤色、緑色および青色の発光が可能な薄膜 ELパネルを、低い製造コストで、かつ、成膜プロセス の簡略化・短縮化を図りながら、再現性確保も容易に得 ることができる。

[0023] また、上記したSrS、BaS、CaS、 Sr_{1-x} Bax S (0<X<1)、 Sr_{1-x} Cax S (0<X<1) 又は Ba_{1-x} Cax S (0<X<1) からなる母材に発光中心としてCeXはCe 化合物を添加してなる層は、青色発光成分を有するものの中で特に高輝度であるので、請求項4、5の発明の薄膜ELパネルよりも、白色発光の輝度を上げることができる。

【0024】本発明の請求項4記載の薄膜エレクトロル

ミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、 $Z_{n_{1-x}}$ M g_x S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心としてM n X はM n M に合物を添加してなる層と、S r G a $_2$ S $_4$ 、S a G a $_2$ S $_4$ 、S c G a $_2$ S $_5$ 、S a $_4$ 、S r $_2$ G a $_2$ S $_5$ 、S a $_2$ G a $_2$ S $_5$ 又はS c S S からなる母材に発光中心としてS C e S 化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えていることを特徴としている。

[0026] SrGa, S4. BaGa, S4. CaG $a_2 S_4 \setminus Sr_2 Ga_2 S_5 \setminus Ba_2 Ga_2 S_5 X dC$ a₂Ga₂S₅からなる母材に発光中心としてCe又は Ce化合物を添加してなる層、およびZnSからなる母 材に発光中心としてTm又はTm化合物を添加してなる 層も、青色発光を呈するものである。つまり、請求項4 ・5の薄膜ELパネルでも、請求項3の薄膜ELパネル と同様に、従来のように、緑色発光画素の画素面積を増 やしたり、或いはZnS:Tbのような緑色発光を呈す る層を発光層に更に積層して緑色成分の発光輝度向上を 図ることなく、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比 赤:緑:青=3:7:1を得ることができる。その結 果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色、緑色および青色のカ ラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色純度が高く、赤色、 緑色および青色の発光が可能な薄膜ELパネルを、低い 製造コストで、かつ、成膜プロセスの簡略化・短縮化を 図りながら、再現性確保も容易に得ることができる。 [0027] tc. SrGa2S4. BaGa2S4.

 $CaGa_2S_4$ 、 $Sr_2Ga_2S_5$ 、 $BaGa_2S_5$ 又は $Ca_2Ga_2S_5$ からなる母材に発光中心としてCe 又はCe 化合物を添加してなる層、およびZn Sからなる母材に発光中心としてTm 又はTm 化合物を添加してなる層は、青色発光を呈するものの中で、特に青色の純度が良い。したがって、請求項3の発明の薄膜ELバネルよりも、青色光の純度を上げることができる。

【0028】本発明の請求項6記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、請求項1、2、3、4又は5記載の構成において、発光面側に、発光層からの光を分光するカラーフィルタが備えられているものである。

【0029】これは、請求項1、2、3、4又は5記載の薄膜ELパネルにおいて、発光面側に、発光層からの光を分光するカラーフィルタが備えられているものであるので、例えば赤色のカラーフィルタを備えることで、赤色の発光輝度および色純度が良好な表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり、緑色のカラーフィルタを備えること

で、緑色の発光輝度および色純度が良好な表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり、或いは、赤色および緑色両方のカラーフィルタを備えることで、赤色および緑色の両色共に発光輝度および色純度が良好なマルチマラーの表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり得る。また、特に請求項3、4又は5記載の薄膜ELパネルの場合は、青色のカラーフィルタを備えることで、青色の発光輝度および色純度が良好な表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり得ると共に、赤色、緑色および青色のカラーフィルタを備えることで、赤色、緑色および青色の発光輝度および色純度が良好なマルチカラーの表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり得て、かつ、フルカラー表示にも対応可能となる。【0030】

【発明の実施の形態】

(実施の形態1)本発明の実施の一形態について図1ないし図4に基づいて説明すれば、以下の通りである。

【0031】本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルは、図1に示すように、ガラス基板1上に、背面電極2、第1 絶縁層3、白色発光層4、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6がこの順に積層されると共に、これら背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、白色発光層4、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6を背面電極2の端部側を除いて覆うように透光性絶縁樹脂7が形成され、さらに、この透光性絶縁樹脂7の上に赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cが形成された構成を有している。

【0032】上記白色発光層4は、ガラス基板1側から順に、 $Z_{n_0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M_n B4a、 S_rS : C_e B4b、 $Z_{n_0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M_n B4cが積層されてなる $Z_{n_0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M_n B4cが積層されてなる $Z_{n_0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M_n Bigive S 是母材としてこれに発光中心として M_n S がかかったなるもので、 Z_nS : M_n Chux C 10 n_n M $g_{0.5}$ S を母材としてこれに発光スペクトルを有し、黄色発光を呈する。 S_n S: C_n EB4bigive S 是好とし、これに発光中心として C_n EB4bigive S 是好るものである。そして、上記白色発光層4は、第1絶縁層3および第2絶縁層5で挟まれた二重絶縁構造となっている。

【0033】背面電極2と透明電極6は、互いに直交する方向に延びる複数の帯状電極からなり、所謂、マトリクス構造となっている。また、赤色・緑色・骨色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cは、透光性絶縁樹脂7上に、上記の背面電極2と透明電極6との交差する位置にマトリクス状に形成されている。

【0034】上記薄膜ELパネルの駆動は、上記の背面電極2と透明電極6との間に図示しない駆動用交流電源を接続し、両電極2・6間に所定周波数の交流電圧を印加することによってなされる。上記両電極2・6間に交流電圧が印加されると、両電極2・6間に電界が形成さ

れ、この電界によって白色発光層4中の電子が伝導帯に励起されて伝導電子(自由電子)となり、さらにこの電子が電界によって加速されて充分なエネルギーを持ち、そして、この電子が白色発光層4中に添加された発光中心としてのMn、Ce に衝突してMn、Ce を励起し、励起されたMn、Ce が基底状態に戻る際に光を放射する。詳細には、白色発光層4における $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}$ S: Mn Pada - 4c からは黄色光が、SrS: Ce Pada もからは骨色光が発せられ、結果的に白色発光層4からは白色光が発せられる。このとき白色発光層4から放射される光がカラーフィルタで分光され、赤色カラーフィルタ8を透過することによって赤色光として認識され、緑色カラーフィルタ8を透過することによって緑色光として認識され、青色カラーフィルタ8 ce 透過することによって青色光として認識される。

【0035】次に、上記薄膜ELパネルの作製手順を示す。まず、スパッタ法や電子ビーム蒸着法(以下、EB蒸着法と称する)などの薄膜形成法により、ガラス基板1上に膜厚200nm程度のMo薄膜層を形成し、電極パターンをウェットエッチングにより形成し、背面電極2を形成する。背面電極2には、上記のMo以外に、Ta、W、或いはITO(Indium Tin Oxide)などを用いることができる。

【0036】次に、スパッタ法やE B 蒸着法などの薄膜 形成法により、膜厚 200 n m程度の、 Si_3 N_4 膜と SiO_2 膜とが積層された Si_3 N_4 / SiO_2 膜を形成し、第1 絶縁層 3 を形成する。第1 絶縁層 3 には、上記 以外に、 Ta_2O_5 や Al_2O_3 などを用いることができる。

【0037】次に、ZnS75mo1%とMgS25mo1%を混合し、これに<math>Mnを0.35at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900で1時間焼結させた $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mnペレットを作製し、これを用いた<math>EB$ 蒸着法によって膜厚200nm程度の $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.75}S:Mn層4aを成膜する。$

【0038】次に、SrSにCeを0.1at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900℃で1時間焼結させたSrS:Ceペレットを作製し、これを用いて電子ビーム蒸着法により膜厚900nm程度のSrS:Ce 層4bを形成する。

【0039】次に、上記の $Z_{n_0\pi}M_{S_0\pi}S:Mn$ 層4 aと同様の工程によって、膜厚200nm程度の上側の $Z_{n_0\pi}M_{S_0\pi}S:Mn$ 層4 cを形成する。

【0040】次に、スパッタ法やE B蒸着法などの薄膜 形成法により、膜厚200 n m程度の、 Si_3N_4 膜と SiO_2 膜とが積層された SiO_2 / Si_3N_4 膜を形成し、第2絶縁層5を形成する。第2絶縁層5には、上記じ外に、 Ta_2O_5 や Al_2O_3 などを用いることができる。

【0041】次に、スパッタ法やEB蒸着法などの薄膜

形成法により、膜厚200nm程度のITO (Indium T in Oxide)膜を形成し、電極パターンをドライエッチン グにより形成し、透明電極6を形成する。透明電極6に は、上記以外に、Alを添加したZnO、Gaを添加し た乙nOなどを用いることができる。

【0042】次に、スクリーン印刷法により、膜厚20 μm程度の透光性絶縁樹脂7を形成する。その後、スピ ンナーで赤色カラーフィルタ8aを塗布して90℃でプ リベークし、パターンを紫外線露光し、有機アルカリ系 の現像液で現像し、200℃でポストベークして赤色力 ラーフィルタ8aを形成する。そして、緑色カラーフィ ルタ86と背色カラーフィルタ8cについても同様の工 程を繰り返して形成する。これによって、薄膜ELパネ ルとなる。

【0043】上記の方法で作製した薄膜ELバネルの各 種特性を以下に示す。まず、ZnomMgomS:Mn 層4a・4cであるが、これらは、ZnSとMgSとの 混晶となっていた。ZnSとMgSとの混晶は、ウルツ 鉱型結晶構造と、既亜鉛鉱型構造を取り得るもので、例 えば、ウルツ鉱型結晶構造が支配的となっているZn 1-x Mgx S: Mn (X=0.5)のX線回折パターンを 図2に示す。

【0044】また、閃亜鉛鉱型構造が支配的となり得る ことは、閃亜鉛鉱型のZnSとMgSが存在し、またそ の混晶が存在することが、閃亜鉛鉱型結晶構造を取る各 化合物のバンドギャップエネルギーと格子間距離との関 係を示す図3において、ZnSとMgSとが直線で結ば れていることからわかる (Jpn.J.Appl.Phys.Vol.32(199 略化かつ短縮化でき、再現性確保も容易になる。 3)pp.679-680 Part 1, No. 1B, January 1993). 【0045】次に、上記薄膜ELパネルの発光スペクト ルを図4に示す。同図中に実線にて示される特性曲線 は、赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8 cを組み合わせなかった場合のもの、同図中に点線にて 示される特性曲線は、緑色カラフィルタ8bを組み合わ せた場合のもの、同図中に一点鎖線にて示される特性曲 線は、赤色カラーフィルタ8aを組み合わせた場合のも の、そして、同図中に破線にて示される特性曲線は、青 色カラーフィルタ8cを組み合わせた場合のものであ

【0046】この図4の発光スペクトルと、図14に示 した、ZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn積層 膜を発光層に用いた前述の薄膜ELパネル(参考例)の 発光スペクトルとを比較すると、本薄膜ELパネルの白 色発光が緑色カラーフィルタ8bを透過した緑色光は、 参考例の薄膜ELパネルによる緑色光に比べて、発光強 度が大きくなっていることがわかる。

【0047】そして、これら各薄膜ELパネルを周波数 100Hzのパルス電圧で駆動したとき、参考例の薄膜 ELパネルでは、画素輝度で赤:緑:青=18.7cd/ $m^2: 29.8 \text{ cd/m}^2: 4.8 \text{ cd/m}^2$ であり、輝度

比に換算すると赤:緑:青=3.9:6.2:1.0であるの に対し、本薄膜ELパネルでは、画素輝度で赤:緑:貴 $= 13.9 cd/m^2 : 35.0 cd/m^2 : 4.8 cd/m$ 2であり、輝度比に換算すると輝度比赤:緑:青=2. 9:7.3:1.0と、RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比 赤:緑:青=3:7:1にほぼ等しい輝度比が得られ た。

【0048】以上のように、本実施の形態に係る薄膜E Lパネルの発光層は、Zng mMgg aS:Mn/Sr S:Ce/ZnomMgomS:Mn積層膜からなる白 色発光層4であるので、白色発光層4中のZnarMg asS:Mn層4a・4cによって緑色発光成分が多く なり、発光面側に配された緑色カラーフィルタ8bを透 過して得られる緑色光は、色純度が高く、かつ高輝度で

【0049】したがって、このような白色発光層4を備 えた本実施の形態の薄膜ELパネルは、赤色、緑色、青 色の色純度が良好で、RGBカラーとする上で、十分適 正な輝度比率が得られるので、従来のように発光画素面 積を変えて調節する必要がなく、パネル駆動用のICド ライバの負担が発光色によって異なる問題もなく、安価 なICドライバで対応できるので製造コストが下げら れ、またZn_{1-x} Mg_xS: Mn層(ここではZn_u n MgasS:Mn層)とSrS:Ce層の2種類の発光 層の種層だけで構成できるので、ZnS: Tbのような 緑色発光を呈する発光層を更に積層して緑色成分の発光 輝度向上を図る必要もないので、成膜プロセス工程を簡

【0050】しかも、青色発光を呈する層として用いた SrS:Ce層4bは、特に高輝度であるので、上記白 色発光層4から発せられる白色光は高輝度である。した がって、このような白色発光層4を備えた本実施の形態 の薄膜ELパネルは、赤色、緑色および青色の色純度が 良好である上に、発光輝度が特に優れたものとなる。 【0051】尚、Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S: MnのXの値は、 Zn_{1-X} Mg_X S: MnとSrS: Ceの膜厚比や赤色 ・緑色・青色の各カラーフィルタの透過率、得ようとす る発光輝度バランスなど総合的な観点から最適値を選ぶ 必要があり、ここでは、XとしてO.25を選んだが、こ れは、Xをあまり大きな値とすると、Xの値が大きくな るほどZnix Mgx S: Mnの発光が短波長側にシフ トする傾向にあるため、発光スペクトルの赤色成分が少 なくなりすぎるためである。

【0052】また、各層の積層順は必ずしも上記白色発 光層4のように、ZnamMgamS:Mn/SrS: Ce/ZnamMgamS:Mnである必要はなく、例 えばZnosMgosS:Mn/SrS:Ceや、Sr S:Ce/ZnomMgosS:Mn/SrS:Ceで あってもよいが、発光の極性対称性を考慮すると上下対 称な構造が好ましい。

【0054】また、SrS:Ce@4bの代わりに骨色発光成分を有するBaS:Ce、CaS:Ce、 Sr_{1-X} $Ba_XS:Ce$ (0<X<1)、 Sr_{1-X} $Ca_XS:Ce$ (0<X<1)、 Sr_{1-X} $Ca_XS:Ce$ (0<X<1) などからなる層を用いることができる。【0055】尚、特開昭63-995号公報には、遷移金属あるいは希土類の元素をドープしたMgS、CaS、SrS、BaSの中の少なくとも一つとZnSとの複合体を母材とする薄膜発光層が開示されている。上記公報は、加水分解し易く耐久性が低いMgSなどに遷移金属あるいは希土類の元素をドープし、これに母体として十分な安定性を有するZnSを混ぜることによって、発光層の耐久性を向上させることを目的としたものであって、発光中心の発光波長を短波長化するという本発明とは区別されるものである。

【0056】また、特開平1-311188号公報には、ZnS:TmとZnS:Mnの組み合わせの白色発光層において、 $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS:Tm$ とすることが開示されている。上記公報は、ZnS:Tmを $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS:Tm$ とすることにより青色発光層の輝度を上げ、白色の色度を維持するためにZnS:Mnの輝度を低くする必要をなくし、結果として白色の輝度を上げることを目的としたものであって、 $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ を母材としても、発光中心のTmの発光波長はほとんど変わらず発光強度が変わるだけで、発光中心の発光波長を短波長化するという本発明とは区別されるものである。【0057】ここで、同じ $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ を母材とし

たものでも、発光中心が遷移金属元素のMnの場合は発 光波長が変化し、発光中心がTmをはじめ希土類元素で は発光波長がほとんど変わらない理由を簡単に述べる。 【0058】遷移金属元素のMnの場合、その電子配置

 $(1s)^2 (2s)^2 (2p)^6 (3s)^2 (3p)^6 (3d)^5$ $(4s)^2$

となる。ここで右肩の添字は軌道に入っている電子数を表す。Mnの場合、3d軌道は10個の電子の許容量があるのにも係わらず、5個しか電子が入っていない不完全設となっており、この不完全な3d軌道間で電子遷移が容易に起こり、外部からエネルギーが与えられたとき、電子は3d軌道の別の軌道に励起され、発光を伴っ

て元の軌道に緩和する。これがd-d遷移とよばれる吸収・発光メカニズムである。さらに、これがイオン化した Mn^2 の場合、4s軌道の電子2個が失われ、 $(1s)^2(2s)^2(2p)^6(3s)^2(3p)^6(3d)^5$ となって最外殼に不完全殼の3dがむき出しの状態で存在することとなるため、 Mn^2 が固体中に置かれた場合、 Mn^2 の3d軌道はその結晶場の中に大きく広がり、その結晶場の影響を大きく受け、 Mn^2 の発光波長はまわりの結晶場の差異に大きく影響されることとなっ

【0059】一方、希土類元素のTmの電子配置は、(1s)² (2s)² (2p)⁶ (3s)² (3p)⁶ (3d)¹⁰(4s)² (4p)⁶(4d)¹⁰(4f)¹³(5s)² (5p)⁶ (6s)²

となる。Tmの場合もMnの場合と同様に4f軌道が不完全殼となっており、4f軌道間でf-f遷移とよばれる吸収・発光メカニズムが存在する。Tmがイオン化した Tm^{3} の場合、6s軌道の2個の電子と4f軌道の1個の電子が失われ、

(1s)²(2s)²(2p)⁶(3s)²(3p)⁶(3d)ថ(4s)²(4p)⁶(4d)ថ(4f)ថ(5s)²(5p)⁶となる。しかしながらTm³・の4f軌道はMn²・の3d軌道とは異なり、5s、5p軌道の電子に静電的に良く遮蔽されているため外部の結晶場の影響をほとんど受けず、Tm³・を様々な固体中に置いても自由イオンのときと発光波長は変わらない。

【0060】つまり、ZnS系の母材に発光中心として添加され、発光色が変化するものは遷移金属元素のMnだけであり、Tmをはじめ希土類元素では、たとえZn1-xMgxSを母材としても、その発光色が変化するものではない。

【0061】 [実施の形態2] 本発明の他の実施の形態 について図5、図6に基づいて説明すれば、以下の通り である。尚、説明の便宜上、前記実施の形態1にて示し た部材と同一の機能を有する部材には、同一の符号を付 記し、その説明を省略する。

【0062】本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルは、図5に示すように、ガラス基板1上に、背面電極2、第1 絶縁層3、白色発光層10、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6がこの順に積層されると共に、これら背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、白色発光層10、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6を背面電極2の端部側を除いて覆うように透光性絶縁樹脂7が形成され、さらに、この透光性絶縁樹脂7の上に赤色・緑色・背色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cが形成された構成を有している。

【0063】つまり、前記の実施の形態1の薄膜ELバネルでは、発光層として、 $Z_{n_0\pi}Mg_{0\pi}S:Mn/S$ rS: $Ce/Z_{n_0\pi}Mg_{0\pi}S:Mn$ 積層膜からなる白色発光層4を備えていたのに対し、本実施の形態の薄膜ELパネルでは、ガラス基板1側から順に、 $Z_{n_0\pi}$

【0064】上記薄膜ELパネルでは、両電極 $2\cdot6$ 間に交流電圧が印加されると、上述のように、発光中心としてのMn、Ceが励起され、基底状態に戻る際に光を放射する。白色発光層10における $2n_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}$: Mn層10a·10cからは黄色光が、CaGa $_2$ S $_4$: Ce層10bからは青色光が発せられ、結果的に白色発光層10からは白色光が発せられる。このとき白色発光層10から放射される光がカラーフィルタで分光され、赤色カラーフィルタ8 aを透過することによって赤色光として認識され、緑色カラーフィルタ8 bを透過することによって緑色光として認識され、青色カラーフィルタ8 cを透過することによって青色光として認識される。

【0065】このような白色発光層10を有する薄膜E Lパネルは、以下の手順で作製される。まず、ガラス基 板1上に、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様の工程 で、膜厚200nm程度の背面電極2、膜厚200nm 程度の第1絶縁層3を順に形成する。

【0066】次に、ZnS75mo1%とMgS25mo1%を混合し、これにMnを0.35at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900℃で1時間焼結させた $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ ターゲットを作製し、これを用いたスパッタリングによって膜厚200nm程度の下側の $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ 層10aを成膜する。【0067】次に、 $CaGa_2S_4$ にCeを0.1at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900℃で1時間焼結させた $CaGa_2S_4:Ce$ 9ーゲットを作製し、これを用いてスパッタリング法により膜厚900nm程度の $CaGa_2S_4:Ce$ 9ーゲットを作製し、これを用いてスパッタリング法により膜厚900nm程度の $CaGa_2S_4:Ce$ 10bを形成する。【0068】次に、下側の $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ 周10aと同様の工程によって、膜厚200nm程度の上側の $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ 層10cを形成する。【0069】その後、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと

ルタ8a・8b・8cを順に形成する。 【0070】上記の方法で作製したZn_{0.75}Mg 0.25:Mn層10a・10cも、前述のものと同様 に、ZnSとMgSとの混晶となっていた。図6に、上 記薄膜ELパネルの発光スペクトルを示す。同図中に実

同様の工程で、膜厚200nm程度の第2絶縁層5、膜厚200nm程度の透明電極6、膜厚20μm程度の透明電極6、膜厚20μm程度の透明電極6、膜厚20μm程度の透

光性絶縁樹脂7、および赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィ

線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cを組み合わせなかった場合のもの、同図中に点線にて示される特性曲線は、緑色カラーフィルタ8bを組み合わせた場合のもの、同図中に一点鎖線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色カラーフィルタ8aを組み合わせた場合のもの、そして、同図中に破線にて示される特性曲線は、青色カラーフィルタ8cを組み合わせた場合のものである。

【0071】この図6の発光スペクトルから、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様に、本薄膜ELパネルの白色発光を赤色・緑色・骨色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cで分光した場合、赤色および青色と共に十分な輝度の緑色発光が得られていることがわかる。しかも、図4に示した実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルの発光スペクトルと比較すると、本薄膜ELパネルの方が、全体としての輝度は実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルに比べてやや劣るものの、骨色カラーフィルタ8cを透過する発光スペクトルが左にシフトしており、骨色の色純度が良いことがわかる。

【0072】このように、本実施の形態に係る薄膜EL パネルの発光層は、ZnamMgasS:Mn/CaG a₂ S₄:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn積層膜から なる白色発光層10であるので、白色発光層10中のZ namMgamS: Mn層10a・10cによって緑色 発光成分が多くなり、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと 同様に、緑色発光成分の画素数の増加や、発光層を構成 する薄膜の積層数の増加を伴うことなくRGBカラーの 表示を行なう上で十分適正な輝度比率が得られる。 【0073】しかも、青色発光を呈する層としてCaG a₂S₄:Ce層10bを用いたので、上記白色発光層 10から発せられる白色光を青色カラーフィルタ8cで 分光して得た青色光は、色純度の優れたものとなる。 【0074】尚、Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S: MnのXとして O.25を選んだが、前述したように、Zn_{1-x} Mg x S:MnとCaGa2 S4:Ceの膜厚比や赤色・緑 色・青色の各カラーフィルタの透過率、得ようとする発 光輝度バランスなど総合的な観点から最適値を選べばよ

【0075】また、各層の積層順は必ずしも上記白色発 光層10のように、 $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn/CaG$ $a_2S_4:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mnである必要$ はなく、例えば $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn/CaGa_2$ $S_4:Ce$ や $CaGa_2S_4:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}$ $S:Mn/CaGa_2S_4:Ce$ であってもよいが、発 光の極性対称性を考慮すると上下対称な構造が好まし い。

【0076】さらに、ここでも、白色発光層10を構成する $Z_{n_0,n}M_{S_0,n}S:Mn$ 層 $10a\cdot 10c$ の発光中心としてMnを用いたが MnF_2 などのMn化合物でもよく、また、 $CaGa_2S_4:Ce$ 層10bの発光中

心も、 $CeCl_3$ やCeNなどのCe化合物を用いることもできる。

【0077】また、 $CaGa_2S_4:Ceの代わりに青色発光成分を有する<math>SrGa_2S_4:Ce$ 、 $BaGa_2S_4:Ce$ 、 $Sr_2Ga_2S_5:Ce$ 、 $Ba_2Ga_2S_5:Ce$ 、 $Ca_2-Ga_2-S_5:Ce$ を用いることも一できる。

【0078】 [実施の形態3] 本発明の他の実施の形態について図7、図8に基づいて説明すれば、以下の通りである。尚、説明の便宜上、前記実施の形態1、2にて示した部材と同一の機能を有する部材には、同一の符号を付記し、その説明を省略する。

【0079】本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELバネルは、図7に示すように、ガラス基板1上に、背面電極2、第1 絶縁層3、白色発光層11、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6がこの順に積層されると共に、これら背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、白色発光層11、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6を背面電極2の端部側を除いて覆うように透光性絶縁樹脂7か形成され、さらに、この透光性絶縁樹脂7の上に赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cが形成された構成を有している。

【0080】つまり、前記の実施の形態1の薄膜ELバ ネルでは、発光層として、ZnamMgazoS:Mn/ SrS:Ce/ZnamMgamS:Mn積層膜からな る白色発光層4を備えていたのに対し、本実施の形態の 薄膜ELパネルでは、ガラス基板1側から順に、2 n as Mgas S: Mn層11a、ZnS: Tm層11 b、Znas Mgas S: Mn層11cが積層されてな $\delta Z n_{05} Mg_{05} S: Mn/ZnS: Tm/Zn_{05}$ Mgas S: Mn積層膜からなる、白色発光層11を有 する点が異なり、その他の構造はほぼ同一の構成を有し ている。Znas Mgas S: Mn層11a・11c は、ZnS:Mnに比べて15nm短波長側へピーク波 長がシフトした発光スペクトルを有し、黄色発光を呈す る。ZnS:Tm層11bは、ZnSを母材とし、これ に発光中心としてTmが添加されてなるもので、前述し たように青色発光を呈するものである。

【0082】このような白色発光層11を有する薄膜E Lパネルは、以下の手順で作製される。まず、ガラス基 板1上に、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様の工程 で、膜厚200nm程度の背面電極2、膜厚200nm 程度の第1絶縁層3を順に形成する。

-(-0.0.8-3)-次に、 $-Z_n$ -S-0-mo-l-%とM-R-S-0-mo-l-%を視合し、これにMnを0.35 a t %添加して加圧形成したのち、Ar ガス中900℃で1時間焼結させた $Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mnペレットを作製し、これを用いたE B蒸着法によって膜厚100nm程度の下側の $Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mn層11 a を成膜する。【0084】次に、 Z_n SにTmF3 やTmC 1_3 などのTm化合物を0.3 mo 1 %添加して加圧形成したのち、Ar ガス中900℃で1時間焼結させた Z_n S: Tmペレットを作製し、これを用いてE B蒸着法により膜厚600nm程度の Z_n S: Tm層11bを形成する。尚、詳細に言えば、前述したように、 Z_n SにTmF3 やTmC 1_3 などのTm化合物を添加して作成されたペレットは、 Z_n S: TmF3 ペレット或いは Z_n S: T

mCl₃ペレットとなり、これを用いてEB蒸着法によ

り成膜される層は、ZnS:TmFa層、ZnS:Tm

Cla層である。

【0086】上記の方法で作製したZnas Mgas S:Mn層11a・11c も、前述のものと同様に、ZnSとMgSとの混晶となっていた。図8に、上記薄膜ELパネルの発光スペクトルを示す。同図中に実線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cを組み合わせなかった場合のもの、同図中に点線にて示される特性曲線は、緑色カラーフィルタ8bを組み合わせた場合のもの、同図中に一点鎖線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色カラーフィルタ8aを組み合わせた場合のもの、そして、同図中に破線にて示される特性曲線は、青色カラーフィルタ8cを組み合わせた場合のものである。

【0087】この図8の発光スペクトルから、実施の形態1の薄膜ELバネルと同様に本薄膜ELバネルの白色発光を赤色・緑色・青色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b・8cで分光した場合、赤色および青色と共に十分な輝度の緑色発光が得られていることがわかる。しかも、図4に示した実施の形態1の薄膜ELバネルの充光スペクトルと比較すると、本薄膜ELバネルの方が、全体としての輝度は実施の形態1の薄膜ELバネルに比べてやや劣

るものの、青色カラーフィルタを透過した発光スペクトルは450~500nmの領域にあるシャープなものであり、実施の形態2の薄膜ELバネルと同様に、青色の色純度が良いことがわかる。

【0088】このように、本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層は、 $Z_{\Pi_{0.5}}$ $M_{S_{0.5}}$ $S: M_{\Pi}/Z_{\Pi}$ $S: T_{M}/Z_{\Pi_{0.5}}$ $M_{S_{0.5}}$ $S: M_{\Pi}/Z_{\Pi}$ $S: T_{M}/Z_{\Pi_{0.5}}$ $M_{S_{0.5}}$ $S: M_{\Pi}/Z_{\Pi}$ $S: T_{M}/Z_{\Pi_{0.5}}$ $M_{S_{0.5}}$ $M_{S_{0.5}}$

【0089】しかも、青色発光を呈する層としてZnS: Tm層11bを用いたので、上記白色発光層11から発せられる白色光を青色カラーフィルタ8cで分光して得た青色光は、色純度の優れたものとなる。

【0090】尚、Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S: MnのXとして 0.5を選んだが、前述したように、Zn_{1-x} Mg_x S: MnとZnS: Tmの膜厚比や赤色・緑色・青色の各カ ラーフィルタの透過率、得ようとする発光輝度バランス など総合的な観点から最適値を選べばよい。

【0091】また、各層の積層順は必ずしも上記白色発光層11のように、 $Zn_{0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mn/Zn S: Tm/ $Zn_{0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mnである必要はなく、例えば $Zn_{0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mn/Zn S: TmやZnS: TmやZnS: TmやZnS: Tmであってもよいが、発光の極性対称性を考慮すると上下対称な構造が好ましい。

【0092】さらに、ここでも、白色発光層11を構成する $2n_{0.5}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: Mn M $11a \cdot 11c$ の発光中心としてMn を用いたがMn F $_2$ などのMn 化合物でもよい。そして反対に、ここでは、2n S: Tm M11 bの発光中心として2n F $_3$ などの2n Tn でももちろんよい。

【0093】また、ZnS:Tmの代わりに青色発光成分を有するZnS:Prなどを用いることもできる。

【0094】 [実施の形態4] 本発明の他の実施の形態 について図9、図10に基づいて説明すれば、以下の通 りである。尚、説明の便宜上、前記実施の形態1、2、 3にて示した部材と同一の機能を有する部材には、同一 の符号を付記し、その説明を省略する。

【0095】本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルは、図9に示すように、ガラス基板1上に、背面電極2、第1 絶縁層3、黄色発光層12、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6がこの順に積層されると共に、これら背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、黄色発光層12、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6を背面電極2の端部側を除いて覆うように透光性絶縁樹脂7が形成され、さらに、この透光性絶縁樹脂7の上に赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8a・8b

が形成された構成を有している。

【0096】つまり、前記の実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルでは、発光層として、 $Z_{n_0\pi}Mg_{0.8}S:Mn/SrS:Ce/Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.8}S:Mn$ 和精層膜からなる白色発光層4を備えていたのに対し、本実施の形態の薄膜ELパネルでは、 $Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$ 層のみからなる単層の黄色発光層12を有する点、および、備えているカラーフィルタが、黄色に応じた赤色カラーフィルタ8aと緑色カラーフィルタ8bである点が異なる。 $Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$ 層からなる黄色発光層12は、 $Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$ 層からなる黄色発光層12は、 $Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$ 層からなる黄色発光層2は、 $Z_{n_0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$

【0097】上記薄膜ELパネルでは、両電極2・6間に交流電圧が印加されると、上述のように、黄色発光層12中の発光中心としてのMnが励起され、基底状態に戻る際に黄色光を放射する。このとき黄色発光層12から放射される光がカラーフィルタで分光され、赤色カラーフィルタ8aを透過することによって赤色光として認識され、緑色カラーフィルタ8bを透過することによって緑色光として認識される。

【0098】このような黄色発光層12を有する薄膜E Lパネルは、以下の手順で作製される。まず、ガラス基 板1上に、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様の工程 で、膜厚200nm程度の背面電極2、膜厚200nm 程度の第1絶縁層3を順に形成する。

【0099】次に、ZnS50mol%とMgS50mol%を混合し、これにMnを0.35at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900℃で1時間焼結させたZna5Mga5S:Mnペレットを作製し、これを用いたEB蒸着法によって膜厚800nm程度のZna5Mga5S:Mn層からなる黄色発光層12を成膜する。

【0100】その後、実施の形態1の薄膜ELバネルと同様の工程で、膜厚200nm程度の第2絶縁層5、膜厚200nm程度の透明電極6、膜厚20μm程度の透光性絶縁樹脂7、および赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8 a・8 bを順に形成する。

【0102】この図10の発光スペクトルから、本薄膜 ELパネルの黄色発光を赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8 a・8bで分光すると、十分な輝度の赤色および緑色発 光が得られていることがわかる。

【0103】このように、本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層は、Zna5 Mga5 S: Mn層の単層からなる黄色発光層12であるので、緑色発光成分が従来のZnS: Mn層の単層からなる橙色発光層を用いたものに比べで多くなり、これに赤色・緑色のカラーフィールタ8a・8bを重ね合わせることで、赤色、緑色ともに充分な輝度と色純度とを有する赤・緑のマルチカラー薄膜ELパネルを得ることができる。

【0.104】尚、 $Zn_{1-X}Mg_XS:MnoX$ として 0.5を選んだが、前述したように、 $Zn_{1-X}Mg_XS:Mno$ 限厚比や赤色・緑色の各カラーフィルタの 透過率、得ようとする発光輝度バランスなど総合的な観 点から最適値を選べばよい。

【0105】また、ここでも、黄色発光層12を構成する Zn_{05} M g_{05} S: Mn層の発光中心としてMnを用いたがMnF $_2$ などのMn化合物でもよい。

【0106】 〔実施の形態5〕本発明の他の実施の形態について図11、図12に基づいて説明すれば、以下の通りである。尚、説明の便宜上、前記実施の形態1、

2、3、4にて示した部材と同一の機能を有する部材には、同一の符号を付記し、その説明を省略する。

【0107】本実施の形態に係る薄膜ELパネルは、図11に示すように、ガラス基板1上に、背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、黄色発光層13、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6がこの順に積層されると共に、これら背面電極2、第1絶縁層3、黄色発光層13、第2絶縁層5、および透明電極6を背面電極2の端部側を除いて覆うように透光性絶縁樹脂7が形成され、さらに、この透光性絶縁樹脂7の上に赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8a・8bが形成された構成を有している。

【0108】つまり、前記の実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルでは、発光層として、 $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn/SrS:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn積層膜からなる白色発光層4を備えていたのに対し、本実施の形態の薄膜ELパネルでは、ガラス基板1側から順に、<math>Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn層13a、ZnS:Mn層13b、Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn層13cが積層されてなるZn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn/ZnS:Mn/Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn/ZnS:Mn/Zn_{0.5}m/Zn_{0.5}m/Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn/ZnS:Mn/Zn_{0.5}m/Zn_{0.5$

【0109】上記薄膜ELパネルでは、両電極 $2\cdot6$ 間に交流電圧が印加されると、上述のように、発光中心としてのMnが励起され、基底状態に戻る際に光を放射する。黄色発光層 $13a\cdot13$ cからは黄色光が、ZnS:Mn層 $13a\cdot13$ cからは黄色光が、ZnS:Mn層13bからは橙色光が発せられる。このとき黄色発光層13

から放射される光がカラーフィルタで分光され、赤色カラーフィルタ8aを透過することによって赤色光として 認識され、緑色カラーフィルタ8bを透過することによって緑色光として認識される。

【0110】このような黄色発光層13を有する薄膜E-Lパネルは、以下の手順で作製される。まず、ガラス基板1上に、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様の工程で、膜厚200nm程度の背面電極2、膜厚200nm程度の第1絶縁層3を順に形成する。

【0111】次に、ZnS50mo1%とMgS50mo1%を混合し、これに<math>Mne0.35at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900でで1時間焼結させた $Zn_{05}Mg_{05}S:Mnペレットを作製し、これを用いた<math>EB$ 蒸着法によって膜厚200nm程度の下側の $Zn_{05}Mg_{05}S:Mn層13ae$ 成膜する。

【0112】次に、ZnSにMnを0.35 at%添加して加圧形成したのち、Arガス中900℃で1時間焼結させたZnS:Mnペレットを作製し、これを用いてEB蒸着法により膜厚400nm程度のZnS:Mn層13bを形成する。

【0113】次に、下側のZn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn層 13aと同様の工程によって、膜厚200nm程度の上 側のZn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn層13cを形成する。

【0114】その後、実施の形態1の薄膜ELパネルと同様の工程で、膜厚200nm程度の第2絶縁層5、膜厚200nm程度の透明電極6、膜厚20μm程度の透光性絶縁樹脂7、および赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8 a・8 bを順に形成する。

【0115】上記の方法で作製した $Zn_{0.5}$ Mg a_5 S: Mn層 $13a\cdot13c$ も、前述のものと同様に、ZnS とMg Sとの混晶となっていた。図12に、上記薄膜E Lパネルの発光スペクトルを示す。同図中に実線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色・緑色のカラーフィルタ8 $a\cdot8$ bを組み合わせなかった場合のもの、同図中に点線にて示される特性曲線は、赤色カラーフィルタ8a を組み合わせた場合のもの、同図中に破線にて示される特性曲線は、緑色カラーフィルタ8b を組み合わせた場合のものである。

【0116】本薄膜ELパネルでは、緑色発光成分の強いZn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn層13a・13cの発光と、赤色発光成分の強いZnS: Mn層13bの発光とが重なり合うため、その発光は赤・緑の波長領域に広がったブロードな発光スペクトルとなっており、図10に示した前述の実施の形態4の薄膜ELパネルの発光スペクトルに比べて、赤色発光成分が強くなっている。【0117】このように、本実施の形態に係る薄膜EL

パネルの発光層は、 $Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M n/Z_n S: M $n/Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M n 積層膜からなる黄色発光層13であるので、 $Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $g_{0.5}$ S: M n 層の単層の発光層を用いた実施の形態4の薄膜ELパネル

よりも赤色発光成分が強くなり、また、ZnS:Mn単層の発光層を用いた薄膜ELパネルよりも緑色発光成分が強くなり、つまりは、両者に比べて赤・緑ともに輝度が高く色純度の良い発光が得られる。

【0120】さらに、ここでも、白色発光層13を構成する $2n_{05}$ M g_{05} S: M n 層 $13a \cdot 13c$ や2n S: M n 層13b の発光中心としてM n を用いたが、M n F_2 などのM n 化合物でもよい。

【0121】尚、上記の実施の各形態では、薄膜ELバネルを、表示パネルとした場合について述べたが、照明パネルとして用いることもできる。上記した各実施の形態は、あくまでも、本発明の技術内容を明らかにするものであって、そのような具体例にのみ限定して狭義に解釈されるべきものではなく、本発明の精神と特許請求の範囲内で、いろいろと変更して実施することができるものである。

[0122]

【発明の効果】以上のように、本発明の請求項1記載の 薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、Zn_{1-X}Mg_XS(O<X<1)からなる母材に発 光中心としてMn又はMn化合物を添加してなる層を、 少なくとも備えている構成である。

【0123】これにより、発光スペクトルは緑色発光成分が多く、該薄膜ELパネルに緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色純度が高く、かつ高輝度の緑色発光を得ることができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、単層の発光層で、赤色、緑色の各色純度が高く、かつ高輝度の、赤色および緑色の発光が可能な薄膜ELパネルを得ることができるという効果を奏する。

【0124】本発明の請求項2記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、Zn₁₋₁ Mg_X S(0<X<1)からなる母材に発光中心としてMn X はMn化合物を添加してなる層と、ZnSからなる母材に発光中心としてMn XはMn化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えている構成である。

【0125】これにより、その発光スペクトルは緑色発

光成分および赤色発光成分が共に多いブロードな発光スペクトルとなり、この薄膜ELバネルに、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、赤色の輝度及び色純度を、Zn_{1-X} Mg_X S:Mn単層の発光層を用いた構成のものよりも上げることができ、また、従来のZ-n-S-+-Mn-単層の発光層を用いた構成のものよりも、--緑・色の輝度及び色純度を上げることができる。その結果、赤色および緑色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、両者に比べて、赤色・緑色共に発光輝度が高く色純度も良い薄膜ELバネルを得ることができるという効果を奏する。

【0126】本発明の請求項3記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、 Zn_{1-x} M g_x S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心として M n X は M n 化合物を添加してなる層と、 S r S、 B a S、 C a S、 S r_{1-x} B a r_x S (0 < X < 1) 、 S r_{1-x} C a r_x S (0 < X < 1) 又は B a r_x C a r_x S (0 < X < 1) からなる母材に発光中心として C e 又は C e 化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えている構成である。

【0127】これにより、従来のように、緑色発光画素の画素面積を増やしたり、或いはZnS:Tbのような緑色発光を呈する層を発光層に更に積層して緑色成分の発光輝度向上を図ることなく、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比赤:緑:青=3:7:1を得ることができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色、緑色および青色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色純度が高く、赤色、緑色および青色の発光が可能な薄膜ELパネルを、低い製造コストで、かつ、成膜プロセスの簡略化・短縮化を図りながら、再現性確保も容易に得ることができるという効果を奏する。

【0128】加えて、上記したSrS、BaS、CaS、 Sr_{1-x} Bax S (0<X<1)、 Sr_{1-x} Cax S (0<X<1) 又は Ba_{1-x} Cax S (0<X<1) からなる母材に発光中心としてCeXはCe 化合物を添加してなる層は、青色発光成分を有するものの中で特に高輝度であるので、請求項4、5の発明の薄膜ELバネルよりも、白色発光の輝度を上げることができるという効果も奏する

【0129】本発明の請求項4記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、 $Z_{n_{1-x}}M_{g_x}$ S(0<X<1) からなる母材に発光中心として M_nX は M_n 化合物を添加してなる層と、 $S_rG_{a_2}S_4$ 、 $B_aG_{a_2}S_4$ 、 $C_aG_{a_2}S_4$ 、 $S_r_2G_{a_2}S_5$ 、 $B_{a_2}G_{a_2}S_5$ 又は $C_{a_2}G_{a_2}S_5$ からなる母材に発光中心として C_eX は C_e 化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えている構成である。

【0130】また、本発明の請求項5記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、発光層として、Zn_{1-X}

 $Mg_XS(0<X<1)$ からなる母材に発光中心としてMnXはMn化合物を添加してなる層と、ZnSからなる母材に発光中心としてTmXはTm化合物を添加してなる層とが積層された積層膜を、少なくとも備えている構成である。

【0131】これにより、従来のように、緑色発光画素の画素面積を増やしたり、或いはZnS:Tbのような緑色発光を呈する層を発光層に更に積層して緑色成分の発光輝度向上を図ることなく、本来RGBカラーに必要とされる輝度比赤:緑:青=3:7:1を得ることができる。その結果、この薄膜ELパネルに、赤色、緑色および青色のカラーフィルタを組み合わせれば、色純度が高く、赤色、緑色および青色の発光が可能な薄膜ELパネルを、低い製造コストで、かつ、成膜プロセスの簡略化・短縮化を図りながら、再現性確保も容易に得ることができるという効果を奏する。

【0132】加えて、 $SrGa_2S_4$ 、 $BaGa_2S_4$ 、 $CaGa_2S_4$ 、 $Sr_2Ga_2S_5$ 、 $Ba_2Ga_2S_5$ 又は $Ca_2Ga_2S_5$ からなる母材に発光中心としてCe又はCe化合物を添加してなる層、およびZnSからなる母材に発光中心としてTm又はTm化合物を添加してなる層は、青色発光を呈するものの中で、特に青色の純度が良いので、請求項3の発明の薄膜ELバネルよりも、青色発光の純度を上げることができるという効果も奏する。

【0133】本発明の請求項6記載の薄膜エレクトロルミネッセンスパネルは、請求項1、2、3、4又は5記載の構成において、発光面側に、発光層からの光を分光するカラーフィルタが備えられている構成である。

【0134】これは、請求項1、2、3、4又は5記載 の薄膜ELパネルにおいて、発光面側に、発光層からの 光を分光するカラーフィルタが備えられているものであ るので、例えば赤色のカラーフィルタを備えることで、 赤色の発光輝度および色純度が良好な表示パネル或いは 照明パネルとなり、緑色のカラーフィルタを備えること で、緑色の発光輝度および色純度が良好な表示パネル或 いは照明パネルとなり、或いは、赤色および緑色両方の カラーフィルタを備えることで、赤色および緑色の両色 共に発光輝度および色純度が良好なマルチマラーの表示 パネル或いは照明パネルとなり得る。また、特に請求項 3、4又は5記載の薄膜ELパネルの場合は、青色のカ ラーフィルタを備えることで、青色の発光輝度および色 純度が良好な表示パネル或いは照明パネルとなり得ると 共に、赤色、緑色および骨色のカラーフィルタを備える ことで、赤色、緑色および骨色の発光輝度および色純度 が良好なマルチカラーの表示パネル或いは照明パネルと なり得て、かつ、フルカラー表示にも対応可能となる。 【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の実施の形態1に係る薄膜ELパネルの 概略構成を示す断面模式図である。 【図2】ウルツ鉱型構造を有する $Z n_{1-x} M g_x S: M n (X=0.5) の X線回折パターンを示す説明図である$

【図3】 関亜鉛鉱型構造を取る各化合物における、バンドギャップエネルギーと格子間距離との関係を示す説明図である。

【図4】実施の形態1に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層($Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn/SrS:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn積層膜)の発光スペクトルを示す説明図である。$

【図5】本発明の実施の形態2に係る薄膜ELパネルの 概略構成を示す断面模式図である。

【図6】実施の形態2に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層(Zn $_{0.75}$ Mg0 $_{0.75}$ S: Mn/CaGa $_{2}$ S $_{4}$: Ce/Zn $_{0.75}$ Mg0 $_{2.75}$ S: Mn積層膜)の発光スペクトルを示す説明図である。

【図7】本発明の実施の形態3に係る薄膜ELパネルの 概略構成を示す断面模式図である。

【図8】実施の形態3に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層($Zn_{05}Mg_{05}S:Mn/ZnS:Tm/Zn_{05}Mg_{05}S:Mn積層膜)の発光スペクトルを示す説明図である。$

【図9】本発明の実施の形態4に係る薄膜ELパネルの 概略構成を示す断面模式図である。

【図10】実施の形態4に係る薄膜E Lバネルの発光層 ($Z_{n_{0.5}}$ M $_{g_{0.5}}$ S: Mn 単層膜) の発光スペクトル を示す説明図である。

【図11】本発明の実施の形態5に係る薄膜ELパネルの概略構成を示す断面模式図である。

【図12】実施の形態5に係る薄膜ELパネルの発光層 (Zn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn/ZnS: Mn/Zn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn積層膜)の発光スペクトルを示す説明 図である。

【図13】ZnS:Mn層とZn_{1-x}Mg_xS:Mn層 の各発光波長の比較を示す説明図である。

【図14】ZnS:Mn/SrS:Ce/ZnS:Mn 積層膜からなる発光層の発光スペクトルを示す説明図で ある。

【図15】赤色、緑色、骨色の各カラーフィルタの透過 率特性を示す説明図である。

【図16】 青色発光を呈する発光層材料の発光波長を示す説明図である。

【符号の説明】

- 1 ガラス基板
- 2 背面電極
- 3 第1絶縁層
- 4 白色発光層
- 4a ZnamMgasS:Mn層
- 4b SrS:Ce層
- 4c ZnamMgasS:Mn層

第2絶縁層 5

透明電極 6

7 透光性絶縁樹脂

8a 赤色カラーフィルタ

8 b 緑色カラーフィルタ

青色カラーフィルタ 8 c

白色発光層 10

10a ZnamMgasS:Mn層

10b CaGa₂S₄:Ce層

10c ZnamMgasS:Mn層

11 白色発光層

lla Zn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S: Mn層

11b ZnS:Tm層

11c $Zn_{0.5}$ Mg_{0.5} S:Mn層

12 黄色発光層

13 黄色発光層

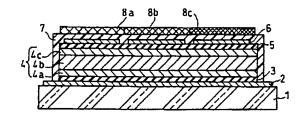
13a Zn_{0.5} Mg_{0.5} S:Mn層

ZnS:Mn層 13b

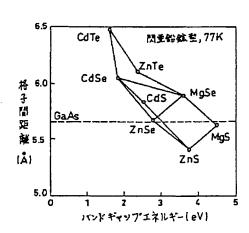
13c Zn0.5 Mg0.5 S:Mn層

【図1】

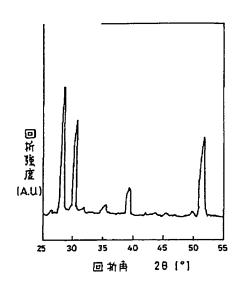




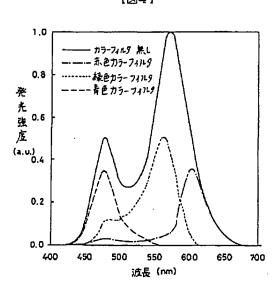
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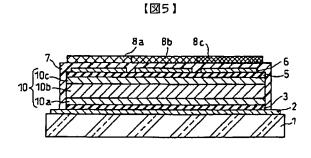


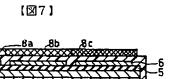
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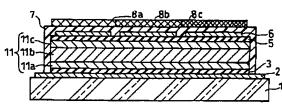


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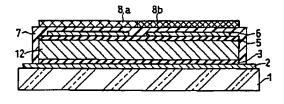




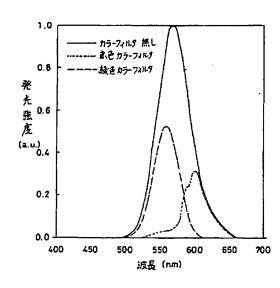




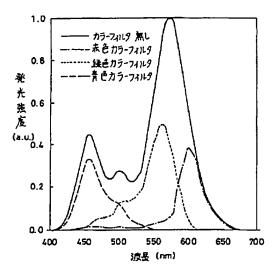




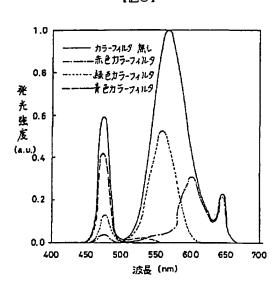
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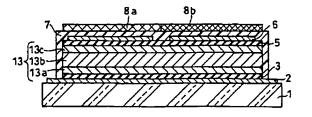




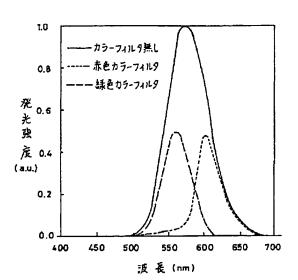
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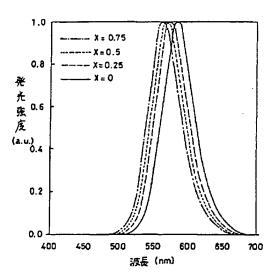
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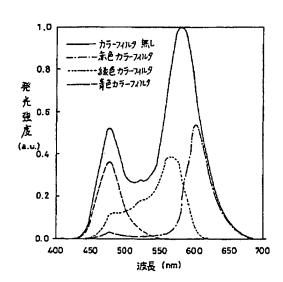
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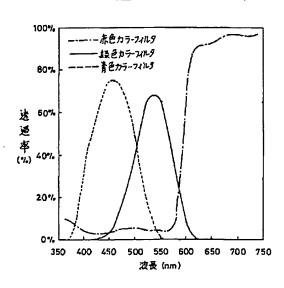
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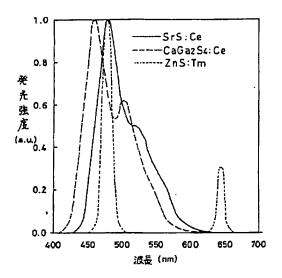
【図14】



【図15】



【図16】



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- (74) Attorney: Patent attorney Kenzo Hara
- (54) [Name of invention] Thin film electro luminescent panel
- (57) [Summary]
 [Issues] It is to support the green emitting component, which has been lacking concerning the existing thin film electro luminescent panel for RGB color, and to provide the thin film electro luminescent panel, which is easy to secure reproducibility and shall have lower manufacturing costs by simplifying and shortening the forming process.

[Solution] White emission layer 4, which is composed of the laminated layer film, which is composed of the laminated layers of yellow emitting Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S: Mn layer 4a and 4c, and blue emitting SrS: Ce layer 4b, shall be used for the purpose of the emission layer concerning the thin film electro luminescent panel, and the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color shall be combined.

[Range of the patent Claims]

[Claim1] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is characterized by having at least the kind of layer which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1) as the emission layer.

[Claim 2] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer in which either Mn or Mn compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[Claim 3] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers, which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, $Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS$ (0<X<1), $Sr_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1) or $Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1).

[Claim 4] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of $SrGa_2S_4$, $BaGa_2S_4$, $CaGa_2S_4$, $Sr_2Ga_2S_5$, $Ba_2Ga_2S_5$ or $Ca_2Ga_2S_5$.

[Claim 5] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer in which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[Claim 6] It is a thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, which shall have the color filter at the emitting surface, which makes a spectrum of the light, which shall generate from the emission layer.

[Detailed explanation of the invention]

[0001]

[Technical field where the invention belongs] This invention is concerning the thin film electro luminescent (hereinafter referred to as EL) panel, which is used for the purpose of the flat thin style display.

[0002]

[Existing technique] Together with the arrival of the information oriented industry age, demand for the flat thin type display became larger. The thin film EL panel is especially among those that have been receiving a great deal of attention for the purpose of the use of FA (Factory Automation) display due to its long life.

[0003] Among the existing thin film EL panels, some emission layers use Mn added ZnS: Mn as the emitting material having ZnS, which shall produce the orange emitting, as the main material, and by using this ZnS: Mn as the emission layer, reliable display characteristics with high luminance ability is obtained. And due to the reason that the emitting spectrum of this ZnS: Mn is reaching the wavelength level of between 500 nm and 600 nm, by combining the color filter of red and green to the one, which shall use ZnS: Mn as the emission layer, it is possible to produce red color light and green color light, and therefore, such 2 color display multi color thin film EL display panel, which combines such red and green color filter (SID 91 Digest P.275 to P.278).

[0004] Further, recently, in order to seek better emitting colors and higher emitting luminance, besides the orange color EL panel, which shall use the abovementioned ZnS: Mn as the emission layer, side by side style thin film EL panel, which shall arrange each pixel of green color, blue color and red color, which shall have green emitting light producing ZnS: Tb, blue emitting light producing SrS: Ce or red emitting light producing SrS: Eu for the purpose of the emission layers, bonding style thin film EL panel, which shall bond 2 pieces of thin film EL panel substrates of different emitting colors, and filter style thin film EL panel, which shall laminate color filters on the emission layer, which is composed of the white color emitting laminated films such as ZnS: Mn/SrS: Ce/ZnS: Mn, etc. in order to create colors, are enthusiastically being developed.

[0005] As for the thin film EL panel, which shall use the laminated films of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn for the purpose of the emission layer, for example, it is mentioned in KOKUKAISHO 62-74986 patent report. Also, it has been examined to make color emitting by laminating color filter of red color, green color and blue color to such white color emitting thin film EL panel (SID 95 Digest P.883 to P.886).

[0006]

[Problems to be solved by the invention] However, although emitting spectrum of ZnS: Mn is reaching the wavelength level of between 500 nm and 600 nm, the emission intensity is weak when it is less than 550 nm, and it is orange color emitting, therefore, the green color, which is obtained when combining the thin film EL panel, which shall have ZnS: Mn as the emission layer, with the green color filter, is the green, which is close to yellow color, and the purity of green is not sufficient.

[0007] Therefore, even using the thin film EL panel, which produces the colors by laminating color filter to the white color emitting laminated films, which is composed of ZnS: Mn, as the abovementioned laminated films of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn, green color emitting is reduced, and when making spectrum of the white color emitting with each color filter of red color, green color and blue color, green emitting is weak compared to the red color emitting and blue color emitting, therefore, the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is necessary to have for the RGB color, is not able to be obtained.

[0008] A detailed explanation of the thin film EL panel, which shall have the emission layer of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn laminated films, is shown in figure 14, which indicates emitting spectrum of the emission layer of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn laminated films. The characteristic curve which is shown in the figure as the solid line, is from white color light, which the color filters are not combined, to the thin film El panel. When spectrum of the white color light is made using the color filters of red color, green color and blue color, which shall have the relationship between the wavelength and the permeable rate, which is shown in Figure 15, such emitting spectrum of red color, green color and blue color, which correspond to each color filter, which is shown in Figure 14, can be produced. In this figure, the characteristic curve of the dashed-dot line shows the results of permeating through the red color filter, the characteristic curve of the dotted line shows the results of permeating through the green color filter and the characteristic curve of the dashed line shows the results of permeating through the blue color filter.

[0009] When driving this emission layer of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn laminated films at 2 polarities pulse voltage of the frequency of 100 Hz, the pixel luminance is red: green: blue = 18.77 cd/m^2 : 29.9 cd/m^2 : 4.8 cd/m^2 and when this is calculated into the luminance ratio, it shall become red: green: blue = 3.9:6.2:1.0, which means the luminance ratio, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color, that is red: green: blue = 3.7:1, cannot be obtained.

[0010] As for the emission layer material of blue color emitting, besides the abovementioned SrS: Ce, there are few other kinds, such as CaGa₂S₄: Ce and ZnS: Tm, etc., and those emitting wavelengths are shown in Figure 16. As it is clearly seen from the figure, the abovementioned SrS: Ce has good emitting efficiency within those, and it is on the longer wavelength side which shall support the green emitting component at most. However, it is still not efficient in order to obtain the luminance ratio, which is necessary to have for the RGB color.

[0011] Also, the problem of lacking the green color emitting component can be solved by increasing the pixel area of the green emitting pixels or improving the emitting luminance of the green color component by laminating a layer, which produces green color emitting such as ZnS: Tb, to the emission layer. However, concerning the former case, because the load of the IC driver for the driving panel drive shall differ depending on the kind of emitting color, such IC driver, which fits to the pixel area of the green color, which shall have a larger load, shall be necessary to have, which shall create the

increasing of the manufacturing costs, and concerning the latter case, for example, 4 layers of ZnS: Mn / ZnS: Tb / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn or 5 layers of ZnS: Mn / ZnS: Tb / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Tb / ZnS: Mn, when considering the symmetry of the polarity, which shall mean more layers are needed, which makes filming process more difficult, takes longer processing time and securing the reproducibility is quite difficult.

[0012] This invention is created in order to solve abovementioned problems, and to provide the thin film EL panel, which shall have high emitting luminance, which can make the green light purity, which is obtained when combining the green color filter, higher than the current number.

[0013] Also, the other purpose of the invention is to provide the thin film EL panel which shall have high emitting luminance and good purity of each red color light and green color light, which is obtained by combining the red color and the green color filters using the structure of the thin film EL panel, which can accomplish the abovementioned purpose.

[0014] Further, the other purpose of the invention is to provide the thin film EL panel which can actualize the luminance ratio, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color without increasing the number of pixels of the green emitting component nor increasing the number of laminating layers of the thin film, which shall compose the emission layer, and shall have high luminance and high purity of each red color light, green color light and blue color light, which is obtained by combining the color filters of red, green and blue.

[0015]

[The method of how to solve the problem]

The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 1 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kind of layer which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of Zn_1 . $_xMg_xS$ (0<X<1) as the emission layer.

[0016] In order to solve the abovementioned problems, the applicant of this invention has tried to make the wavelength of the emitting spectrum of ZnS: Mn, which is effective and shall have high emitting luminance as the emission layer of the thin film EL panel, shorter, and as a result, it was found out that the emitting spectrum of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, in which Mn is added for the purpose of the emitting device making the $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ as the main material by substituting Zn of the main material ZnS to Mg within the range of X (0<X<1), produced the emitting color with shorter wavelengths by 10 to 20 nm compared to the wavelength of ZnS: Mn.

[0017] For example, in the case that X=0.25 and $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$, X=0.5 and $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn$, and X=0.75 and $Zn_{0.25}Mg_{0.75}S:Mn$, then each peak wavelength of the emitting spectrum shifts to the shorter wavelength side compared to the emitting spectrum of X=0 and ZnS:Mn, which are approximately 10 nm, 15 nm and 20 nm as they are shown in Figure 13.

[0018] Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the invention, which is mentioned in Claim 1 shall use the layer ($Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn) as the emission layer, which Mn or Mn compound is added for the emitting material to the main material of the abovementioned $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), the emitting spectrum shall have more green emitting components, and by combining the green color filter to the said thin film EL panel, it can obtain the green emitting of high purity and high luminance. As a result, when combining the red and green color filter to this thin film EL panel, such thin film EL panel, which shall emit high luminance red and green, also has high purity and has the emission layer as a single layer, can be obtained.

[0019] The thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 2 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Mn or Mn compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[0020] As it is mentioned, the layer composed of ZnS: Mn shall produce the orange emitting and have high luminance. Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the invention which is mentioned in Claim 2 shall use the laminated films of laminated layers of ZnS: Mn and the abovementioned layer of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS: Mn as the emission layer, the emitting spectrum shall become broad emitting spectrum of having a larger amount of both red color emitting components and green color emitting components, and when combining red and green color filter to the thin film EL panel, the purity and the luminance of the red color shall become higher compared to the emission layer structure of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS: Mn single layer, and also the purity and the luminance of the green color shall become higher compared to the emission layer structure of existing ZnS: Mn single layer. As a result, when combining the red and green color filter to this thin film EL panel, such thin film EL panel, which shall emit high luminance red and green and also have high purity for both colors, can be obtained.

[0021] The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 3 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, $Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS$ (0<X<1), $Sr_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1) or $Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1).

[0022] The layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, Sr₁. $_x$ Ba $_x$ S (0<X<1), Sr_{1-x}Ca $_x$ S (0<X<1) or Ba_{1-x}Ca $_x$ S (0<X<1), shall produce blue emitting. It means that in this thin film EL panel of this invention of Claim 3, the laminated films of the laminated layers of the abovementioned Zn_{1-x}Mg $_x$ S: Mn layer is used for the emission layer, therefore, the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is

necessary to obtain for the RGB color, can be obtained without increasing the pixel area of the green emitting pixels, nor improving emitting luminance of the green component by making more layers of green color emitting layer such as ZnS: To to the emission layer. As a result, when combining red, green and blue color filter to the thin film EL panel, it can obtain the thin film EL panel with high purity and having the ability to produce red, green and blue color emitting, which can be produced with low manufacturing costs and shall have a simplified and shortened forming process as well as being able to secure reproducibility easily.

[0023] Also, the abovementioned layer, which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, $Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS$ (0<X<1), $Sr_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1) or $Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1), shall have especially high luminance within the material, which contains blue emitting component, therefore, the luminance of the white emitting can be higher compared to the thin film EL panel of the invention of Claim 4 and Claim 5.

[0024] The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 4 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrGa₂S₄, BaGa₂S₄, CaGa₂S₄, Sr₂Ga₂S₅, Ba₂Ga₂S₅ or Ca₂Ga₂S₅.

[0025] Also, the thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 5 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound, added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer of which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[0026] The layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrGa₂S₄, BaGa₂S₄, CaGa₂S₅, Ba₂Ga₂S₅ or Ca₂Ga₂S₅, and the layer, which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS, shall also produce the blue emitting. Therefore, also using the thin film EL panel of Claim 4 and Claim 5, as well as the thin film EL panel of Claim 3, and the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color can be obtained without increasing the pixel area of the green emitting pixels nor improving emitting luminance of the green component by making more layers of green color emitting layer such as ZnS: Tb to the emission layer. As a result, when combining red, green and blue color filter to the thin film EL panel, it can obtain the thin film EL panel with high purity and having the ability to produce red, green and blue color emitting, which can be produced with low manufacturing costs and shall have a simplified and shortened forming process as well as being able to secure reproducibility easily.

[0027] The layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrGa₂S₄, BaGa₂S₄, CaGa₂S₅, Ba₂Ga₂S₅ or Ca₂Ga₂S₅, and the layer, which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS, shall have especially excellent blue purity within the material, which shall produce blue emitting. Therefore, it can have higher purity of blue color light compared to the thin film EL panel of this invention of Claim 3.

[0028] Concerning the structure which is mentioned in Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5 of the thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 6 of this invention, it shall have the color filter at the emitting surface, which makes spectrum of the light, which shall generate from the emission layer.

[0029] Concerning the thin film EL panel which is mentioned in Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, it shall have the color filter on the emitting surface side to make spectrum of light, which produces from the emission layer, therefore, for example, by setting the red color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of red color, or by setting the green color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of green color, or by setting the red and the green color filters, it can become a multi color display panel or a multi color lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of both red and green color. Also, especially in the case of the thin film EL panel, which is mentioned in Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, by setting the blue color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of blue color, and by setting the red, the green and the blue color filters, it can become a multi color display panel or a multi color lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of all of red, green and blue color as well as being able to correspond to the use of full color display.

[0030]

[Implementation form of the invention]

[Implementation form 1] Concerning one form of the implementation of this invention, the explanation of Figure 1 and Figure 4 are as follows.

[0031] The thin film EL panel, which is related to this invention, is formed as shown in Figure 1 such as rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, white color emission layer 4, the second insulation layer 5 and transparent electrode 6 are laminated on top of the glass substrate 1 in sequence, and the translucent insulation resin 7 is created covering all of the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the white emission layer 4, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6, except the edge side of the rear electrode 2, and the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color are created on this translucent insulation resin 7.

[0032] The abovementioned white color emission layer 4 is the laminated films of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce / Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$, which $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ layer 4a,

SrS : Ce layer 4b and $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4c are laminated in sequence from the glass substrate 1 side. 4a and 4c of the $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ as the main material and Mn is added as the emitting material, and it shall have the emitting spectrum of the shifted peak wavelength toward the shorter wavelength side by 10 nm compared to ZnS: Mn, and produces yellow emitting. SrS: Ce layer 4b is composed of SrS as the main material and Ce is added as the emitting material, and it produces blue emitting. And the abovementioned emission layer 4 shall have the double insulation structure, which is sandwiched between the first insulation layer 3 and the second insulation layer 5.

[0033] The rear electrode 2 and the transparent electrode 6 are composed of plural numbers of the band style electrodes, which spreads to the orthogonal direction to each other, which shall form the matrix structure. Also, the color filters of 8a, 8b and 8c of red color, green color and blue color are created in matrix style on the translucent insulation resin 7 at the position of the crossing point of the abovementioned rear electrode 2 and the transparent electrode 6.

[0034] The drive of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is made by connecting the AC power source for drive, which is not shown in the figure, between the abovementioned electrode 2 and the transparent electrode 6, and applying AC voltage of the designated frequency between the two electrodes 2 and 6. When AC voltage is applied between the abovementioned two electrodes 2 and 6, an electric field will be made between the two electrodes 2 and 6, and by this electric field, the electron which is within the white color emission layer becomes a conduction electron (free electron) by being excited by the conduction bands, then the electron shall have enough energy accelerating by the electric field, and this electron shall then collide Mn and Ce to excite Mn and Ce and this excited Mn and Ce would emit light when it goes back to the normal state. In detail, yellow light shall be emitted from the Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S: Mn layer 4a and 4c, blue light shall be emitted from the SrS: Ce layer 4b and as a result white light shall be emitted from the white emission layer 4. At this time, the light which shall be emitted from the white color emission layer 4, shall be divided (spectrum) by the color filter, and it shall be recognized as the red color light by permeating through the red color filter 8a, it shall be recognized as the green color light by permeating through the green color filter 8b, and it shall be recognized as the blue color light by permeating through the blue color filter 8c.

[0035] Next, the manufacturing procedure of the abovementioned thin film EL panel shall be mentioned. First, Mo thin film layer of the thickness of approximately 200 nm shall be created on the glass substrate 1 by the thin film forming techniques, such as the sputtering method and the electron beam deposition technique (hereinafter referred to as EB deposition technique), then the electrode pattern shall be created by the wet etching, then the rear electrode 2 shall be created. Ta, W or ITO (Indium Tin Oxide) can be used for the rear electrode 2, instead of the abovementioned Mo.

[0036] Next, Si_3N_4 / SiO_2 film of the thickness of approximately 200 nm is created, which is the laminated layer of Si_3N_4 film and SiO_2 film using the thin film forming

methods like the sputtering method or the EB deposition technique, in order to create the first insulation layer 3. Ta₂O₅ and Al₂O₃ can be used for the first insulation layer 3, instead of the abovementioned material.

[0037] Next, a $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to the mixture of 75 mol% of ZnS and 25 mol% of Mg, then $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4a shall be formed for approximately the thickness of 200 nm by the EB deposition technique using this pellet.

[0038] Next, a SrS: Ce pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.1 at% of Ce is added to SrS, then SrS: Ce layer 4b shall be formed for approximately the thickness of 900 nm by the electron beam deposition technique using this pellet.

[0039] Next, using the same process of the abovementioned $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4a, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4c of the upper side for approximately the thickness of 200 nm shall be created.

[0040] Next, create SiO_2 / Si_3N_4 film of the thickness of approximately 200 nm, which is the laminated layer of Si_3N_4 film and SiO_2 film using the thin film forming methods like the sputtering method or the EB deposition technique, in order to create the second insulation layer 5. Ta_2O_5 and Al_2O_3 can be used for the second insulation layer 5 instead of the abovementioned material.

[0041] Next, approximately the film thickness of 200 nm of ITO (Indium Tin Oxide) film shall be created by the thin film forming methods such as the sputtering method or the EB deposition method, then the electrode pattern shall be created by the dry etching to create the transparent electrode 6. Al added ZnO and Ga added ZnO can be used for the transparent electrode 6 besides the abovementioned material.

[0042] Next, the translucent insulation resin 7 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm shall be created by the screen printing method. After that, the red color filter 8a shall be applied by the spinner, then it shall be pre-baked at 90 °C, then the pattern shall be ultraviolet exposed, which shall be developed by the organic alkaline developing fluid, and then it shall be post-based at 200 °C to create the red color filter 8a. And for the purpose of the green color filter 8b and the blue color filter 8c, the same process shall be repeated to create them. By doing this, the thin film EL panel shall be created.

[0043] Each characteristic of the thin film EL panel which is created by the abovementioned method shall be indicated as below. First of all, concerning $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4a and 4c, these became mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS. The mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS can be the Wurtzite crystal structure and the Flash zinc crystal structure, and for example, x-ray diffraction pattern of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (X = 0.5), which is controlled by the Wurtzite crystal structure, is shown in Figure 2.

[0044] Also, it is recognized by Figure 3, which indicates the relationship between the band gap energy of each compound, which shall have the flash zinc crystal structure, and the distance between the lattices, where ZnS and MgS is linked by the straight line, that controlling by the Flash zinc crystal structure shall mean the existence of flash zinc crystal style ZnS and MgS, as well as the existence of the mixed crystal (Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. Vol.32 (1993) P.679 – P.680, Part 1, No. 1B, January 1993).

[0045] Next, the emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is shown in Figure 4. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the solid line shows when the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color were not combined The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dotted line shows when the green color filter 8b is combined. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed-dot line shows when the red color filter 8a is combined, and the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed line shows when the blue color filter 8c is combined.

[0046] When comparing the emitting spectrum of Figure 4 and the emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel (as reference example), which ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn laminated layer film is used for the emission layer, the green color light, which is generated by the white emitting of the thin film EL panel permeating through the green color filter 8b, shall have larger emitting intensity compared to the green light by the thin film EL panel of the reference example.

[0047] And when each thin film EL panel is driven by the pulse voltage of the frequency of 100 Hz, the thin film EL panel of the reference example is; red: green: blue = 18.7 cd/m^2 : 29.8 cd/m^2 : 4.8 cd/m^2 as the pixel luminance, and red: green: blue = 3.9 : 6.2 : 1.0 calculated into luminance ratio. The results of this thin film EL panel is; red: green: blue = $13.9 \text{ cd/m}^2 : 35.0 \text{ cd/m}^2 : 4.8 \text{ cd/m}^2$ as the pixel luminance, and red: green: blue = 2.9 : 7.3 : 1.0 calculated into luminance ratio, which is almost equal to the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color.

[0048] As mentioned above, the emission layer of the thin film EL panel which is related to this implementation form is the white emission layer 4, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce / Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ laminated layer film, therefore, the green color emitting component shall increase by 4a and 4c of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ layer within the white color emitting layer 4, and the green light, which is obtained permeating through the green color filter 8b, which is arranged at the emitting surface side, shall have high purity and high luminance.

[0049] Therefore, because the thin film EL panel of this implementation form, which shall have such a white color emission layer 4, shall have good purity of red color, green color and blue color, and can obtain sufficient luminance ratio for the RGB color, thus it is not necessary to adjust by changing the emitting pixel area as the existing method, and shall have no different IC drivers for the panel drive for the different emitting colors, and the manufacturing costs shall be low due to the reason that the low price IC driver would be enough to correspond to the need. Also, the structure is made of only 2 kinds of layers

of the emission layer of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn layer (in this case, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn) and SrS: Ce layer, therefore, it is not necessary to make further lamination of the emission layer, which shall produce the green emitting, in order to improve the emitting luminance of the green component, which makes the forming process simplified and shortened, and the reproducibility to be secured easily.

[0050] Further, SrS: Ce layer 4b, which is used for the blue color emitting layer, has especially high luminance, and therefore, the white light which is generated from the abovementioned emission layer 4 shall also have high luminance. Therefore, the thin film EL panel of this implementation form, which shall have such white color emitting layer 4, shall have especially excellent luminance as well as having the good purity of red color, green color and blue color.

[0051] It is necessary to choose the value for "X" in $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn considering the overall points such as film thickness ratio of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn and SrS: Ce, permeating rate of each color filter of red, green and blue and emitting luminance balance, which it is trying to obtain, etc., and 0.25 is chosen for X in here. It is because if the value of X is too big, the bigger the value of X becomes, the emitting of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn shall be shifted to the shorter wavelength side, and therefore, the red color component of the emitting spectrum shall become too small.

[0052] Also, the laminating order of each layer does not have to be same as the abovementioned white color emitting layer 4, which is $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$, and for example, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce$ or $SrS:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce$ can also be acceptable. However, considering the polarity symmetry of emitting, it is better to have the up and down symmetrical structure.

[0053] Further, although Mn is used in here for the purpose of the emitting material of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 4a and 4c, which shall compose the white emission layer 4, Mn compound such as MnF₂, etc. can also be used, and as to the emitting material of SrS: Ce layer 4b, Ce compound such as CeCl and CeN, etc. can be used. In this case, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer shall be mentioned as $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: MnF₂ layer, and SrS: Ce layer shall be mentioned as SrS: CeCl₃ layer and SrS: CeN layer. However, within the sentences of this document, they are mentioned as single unit style even when compound was used.

[0054] Also, instead of SrS: Ce layer 4b, such layer, which is composed of BaS: Ce, CaS: Ce, Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS: Ce (0<X<1) and Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS: Ce (0<X<1), etc., which shall contain the blue emitting component, can be used.

[0055] The TOKUKAISHO 63-995 patent report shows the thin film emission layer which has a main part as compound parts of at least one of MgS, CaS, SrS and BaS, which is made by a doping element of either transition metal or rare earth metals, and ZnS. The abovementioned patent report is about doping element of transition metal or rare earth metals to MgS, etc. which is easily used to make hydrolysis and has a low durability, and making this as the main part, by mixing ZnS which has sufficient stability,

it provides increased durability of the emission layer, which does not mean that such emitting color nor crystal structure of the emission layer shall be changed, and therefore, it shall be treated differently from this invention.

[0056] Also, concerning TOKUKAIHEI 1-311188 patent report, the white emission layer, which is composed of the combination of ZnS: Tm and ZnS: Mn, is mentioned as $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Tm. The purpose of the abovementioned patent report is to increase the luminance of the white color by making the luminance of the blue emission layer increase by changing ZnS: Tm into $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Tm without lowering the luminance of ZnS: Mn in order to maintain the chromaticity of white color, and therefore, even if $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ is used as the main material, the emitting wavelength of Tm, which is the main emitting material, is almost the same, but only the emitting intensity changes, therefore, it shall be treated differently from this invention, which shortens the emitting wavelength of the main emitting material.

[0057] In the case of using Mn of the transition metallic element as the main emitting material, although the same $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ is used as the main material, the wavelength shall change, but when the rare earth element such as Tm is used for the main emitting material, the wavelength shall remain almost the same without changing. The reason shall be explained herebelow.

[0058] In the case Mn of the transition metallic element is used, then the electron arrangement shall be:

$$(1s)^2 (2s)^2 (2p)^6 (3s)^2 (3p)^6 (3d)^5 (4s)^2$$

Those small numbers attached to each upper right shall indicate the numbers of electrons. In the case of Mn, although 3d track (orbit) shall have 10 pieces of electrons as the permissible amount, it is an imperfect shell, which contains only 5 pieces of electrons, and because of this imperfect 3d track (orbit), electron transition can easily happen within this area, and when energy is given from the outer factor, the electron shall be excited to another track (orbit) besides 3d track (orbit), and then it shall be relieved to the initial track (orbit) accompanied by emitting. This is so called d-d transition, which is the mechanism of absorption and emission. Further, in the case of the ionized Mn²⁺, 2 pieces of the electrons on 4s track (orbit) shall be lost, and it shall become;

$$(1s)^2 (2s)^2 (2p)^6 (3s)^2 (3p)^6 (3d)^5$$

which means the imperfect 3d shell shall exist exposing at the most outer position of shells, therefore, when Mn²⁺ is placed within the solid body, 3d track (orbit) of Mn²⁺ shall expand within the crystals widely, and then it shall be affected by the crystals and the emitting wavelength of Mn²⁺ shall have a huge effect from the difference of the crystals around there.

[0059] One the other hand, electron arrangement of Tm of the rare earth element shall indicate as below.

$$(1s)^2 (2s)^2 (2p)^6 (3s)^2 (3p)^6 (3d)^{10} (4s)^2 (4p)^6 (4d)^{10} (4f)^{13} (5s)^2 (5p)^6 (6s)^2$$

In the case of Tm, which is same as the case of Mn, 4f track (orbit) is an imperfect shell, and the mechanism of absorption and emission shall exist, which is so called as f-f transition, within the 4f track (orbit). In the case that Tm is the ionized Tm³⁺, 2 pieces of the electrons on 6s track (orbit) and 1 piece of the electron on 4f track (orbit) shall be lost, and it shall become;

$$(1s)^2 (2s)^2 (2p)^6 (3s)^2 (3p)^6 (3d)^{10} (4s)^2 (4p)^6 (4d)^{10} (4f)^{12} (5s)^2 (5p)^6$$

However, 4f track (orbit) of Tm^{3+} is different from 3d track (orbit) of Mn^{2+} , as it is statically well insulated against the electrons of 5s and 5p tracks (orbits), and therefore, there is almost no effect from the outer crystal area so that even if Tm^{3+} is placed in various solid bodies, the wavelength remains the same as when it is the free ion.

[0060] Therefore, only Mn of the transition metallic element shall change the emitting color by being added as the main emitting material to the ZnS related main material. Other materials such as Tm and the rare earth elements shall not change the emitting color even when $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ is used as the main material.

[0061] [Implementation form 2] Concerning another form of the implementation of this invention, the explanation of Figure 5 and Figure 6 are as follows. As for the explanation, when the material used here has the same function as the material used in the abovementioned implementation form 1, the same symbol shall be used and the explanation of those shall be omitted in here.

[0062] The thin film EL panel which is related to this invention is formed as shown in Figure 5 such as the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the white color emission layer 10, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6 are laminated on top of the glass substrate 1 in sequence, and the translucent insulation resin 7 is created covering all of the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the white emission layer 10, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6, except the edge side of the rear electrode 2, and the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color are created on this translucent insulation resin 7.

[0063] Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the abovementioned implementation form 1 had the white emission layer 4, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ / SrS : Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ for the emission layer, but the thin film EL panel of this implementation is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn / CaGa₂S₄ : Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn, which is the laminated films of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10a, CaGa₂S₄ : Ce layer 10b and $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10c in sequence from the glass substrate 1 side. Except this contains the white emission layer 10, other structures are almost the same. CaGa₂S₄ : Ce layer 10b in the white emission layer 10 shall have CaGa₂S₄ as the main material and Ce is added as the main emitting material, which shall produce the blue emitting.

[0064] When AC voltage is applied between the two electrodes of 2 and 6, as it is mentioned before, Mn and Ce shall be excited, and would emit light when they go back to the normal state. Yellow light shall be emitted from the $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10a and 10c, blue light shall be emitted from the $CaGa_2S_4$: Ce layer 10b and as a result white light shall be emitted from the white emission layer 10. At this time, the light, which shall be emitted from the white color emission layer 10, shall be divided (spectrum) by the color filter, and it shall be recognized as the red color light by permeating through the green color filter 8a, it shall be recognized as the green color light by permeating through the green color filter 8b, and it shall be recognized as the blue color light by permeating through the blue color filter 8c.

[0065] The thin film EL panel, which shall contain such white emission layer 10, shall be created as the procedure of below. First, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation 1, rear electrode 2 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm and the first insulation layer 3 of approximately 200 nm shall be created.

[0066] Next, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn target shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to the mixture of 75 mol% of ZnS and 25 mol% of Mg, then $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10a of the lower side shall be formed for approximately the thickness of 200 nm by the sputtering method using this target.

[0067] Next, CaGa₂S₄: Ce target shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.1 at% of Ce is added to CaGa₂S₄, then CaGa₂S₄: Ce layer 10b shall be formed for approximately the thickness of 900 nm by the electron beam deposition technique using this pellet.

[0068] Next, using the same process of the abovementioned $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10a, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10c of the lower side for approximately the thickness of 200 nm shall be created.

[0069] After that, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, the second insulation layer 5 of the film thickness of approximately 200nm, the transparent electrode 6 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm, the translucent insulation resin 7 of the film thickness of approximately 20 μ m and color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color shall be created in the written order.

[0070] $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ layer 10a and 10c, which are created by the abovementioned method, also become the mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS. The emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is shown in Figure 6. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the solid line shows when the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color were not combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dotted line shows when the green color filter 8b is combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed-dot line shows when the red color filter 8a is combined and the characteristic curve in the

figure which is indicated as the dashed line shows when the blue color filter 8c is combined.

[0071] From this emitting spectrum of Figure 6, when the white emitting of the thin film EL panel is divided (spectrum) by the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color, it is seen that efficient green color emitting with high luminance was obtained as well as the red color and the blue color. Further, when comparing with the emitting spectrum of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, which is shown in Figure 4, this thin film EL panel shall have better purity of the blue color, which can be seen from the emitting spectrum, which shall be permeating through the blue color filter 8c, which is shifted to the left, though the overall luminance of this thin film EL panel compared to the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1 is somewhat lower.

[0072] As mentioned above, the emission layer of the thin film EL panel which is related to this implementation form, is the white emission layer 10, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn / $CaGa_2S_4$: Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn laminated layer film, therefore, the green color emitting component shall increase by 10a and 10c of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer within the white color emitting layer 10, and the same as the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, sufficient luminance ratio in order to make the RGB color display is obtained without increasing the pixel numbers of the green color emitting component, nor increasing the number of layers, which is laminated to the thin film, which shall compose the emission layer.

[0073] Further, because CaGa₂S₄ layer 10b is used for the blue emitting layer, the blue light, which is obtained by dividing (spectrum) the white light, which shall be emitted from the abovementioned white color emission layer 10 using the blue color filter 8c, shall have excellent purity.

[0074] 0.25 was chosen for the value of "X" in $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, however, as it is mentioned in the above, the most suitable value can be chosen considering the overall point such as film thickness ratio of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn and $CaGa_2S_4$: Ce, permeating rate of each color filter of red, green and blue and emitting luminance balance, which it is trying to obtain, etc.

[0075] Also, the laminating order of each layer does not have to be same as the abovementioned white color emitting layer 10, which is $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / CaGa_2S_4:$ Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$, and for example, $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / CaGa_2S_4:$ Ce or $CaGa_2S_4:$ Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / CaGa_2S_4:$ Ce can also be acceptable. However, considering the polarity symmetry of emitting, it is better to have the up and down symmetrical structure.

[0076] Further, although Mn is used in here for the purpose of the emitting material of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer 10a and 10c, which shall compose the white emission layer 10, Mn compound such as MnF₂, etc. can also be used, and as to the emitting material of $CaGa_2S_4$: Ce layer 10b, Ce compound, such as CeCl and CeN, etc., can be used.

[0077] Also, instead of $CaGa_2S_4$: Ce, $SrGa_2S_4$: Ce, $BaGa_2S_4$: Ce, $Sr_2Ga_2S_5$: Ce, $Ba_2Ga_2S_5$: Ce and $Ca_2Ga_2S_5$: Ce, etc., which shall contain the blue emitting component, can also be used.

[0078] [Implementation form 3] Concerning another form of the implementation of this invention, the explanation of Figure 7 and Figure 8 are as follows. As to the explanation, when the material used here has the same function as the material used in the abovementioned implementation form 1 and 2, the same symbol shall be used and the explanation of those shall be omitted in here.

[0079] The thin film EL panel which is related to this invention is formed as shown in Figure 7 such as the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the white color emission layer 11, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6 are laminated on top of the glass substrate 1 in sequence, and the translucent insulation resin 7 is created covering all of the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the white emission layer 11, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6, except the edge side of the rear electrode 2, and the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color are created on this translucent insulation resin 7.

[0080] Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the abovementioned implementation form 1 had the white emission layer 4, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ / SrS : Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ for the emission layer, but the thin film EL panel of this implementation is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn / ZnS : Tm / $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn, which is the laminated films of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11a, ZnS : Tm layer 11b and $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11c in sequence from the glass substrate 1 side. Except this contains the white emission layer 11, other structures are almost the same. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11a and 11c shall have the emitting spectrum, which the peak wavelength is shifted to the shorter wavelength side by 15 nm compared to ZnS: Mn, and shall produce the blue emitting.

[0081] When AC voltage is applied between the two electrodes of 2 and 6, as it is mentioned before, Mn and Tm shall be excited, and would emit light when they go back to the normal state. Yellow light shall be emitted from the Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn layer 11a and 11c, blue light shall be emitted from the ZnS: Tm layer 11b and as a result, white light shall be emitted from the white emission layer 11. At this time, the light which shall be emitted from the white color emission layer 11 shall be divided (spectrum) by the color filter, and it shall be recognized as the red color light by permeating through the green color filter 8a, it shall be recognized as the green color light by permeating through the green color filter 8b, and it shall be recognized as the blue color light by permeating through the blue color filter 8c.

[0082] The thin film EL panel which shall contain such white emission layer 11 shall be created as the procedure of below. First, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation 1, rear electrode 2 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm and the first insulation layer 3 of approximately 200 nm shall be created.

[0083] Next, A $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to the mixture of 50 mol% of ZnS and 50 mol% of Mg, then $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11a of the lower side shall be formed for approximately the thickness of 100 nm by the EB deposition method using this pellet.

[0084] Next, after applying pressure forming by adding 0.3 mol% of Tm compound such as TmF_3 and $TmCl_3$ to ZnS, the ZnS: Tm pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere using the EB deposition method, and ZnS: Tm layer 11b of the film thickness of approximately 600 nm shall be created. Further, in detail, as it is mentioned before, the pellet, which is created by added Tm compound such as TmF_3 and $TmCl_3$, etc., to ZnS, shall become either ZnS: TmF_3 pellet or ZnS: $TmCl_3$ pellet, and the forming layer, which shall be created by the EB deposition method using those, shall be ZnS: TmF_3 layer and ZnS: $TmCl_3$ layer.

[0085] Next, using the same process of the abovementioned $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11a, $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11c of the lower side for approximately the thickness of 100 nm shall be created.

After that, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, the second insulation layer 5 of the film thickness of approximately 200nm, the transparent electrode 6 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm, the translucent insulation resin 7 of the film thickness of approximately 20 µm and color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color shall be created in the written order.

[0086] Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S layer 11a and 11b, which are created by the abovementioned method, also become the mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS. The emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is shown in Figure 8. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the solid line shows when the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color were not combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dotted line shows when the green color filter 8b is combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed-dot line shows when the red color filter 8a is combined and the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed line shows when the blue color filter 8c is combined.

[0087] From this emitting spectrum of Figure 8, when the white emitting of the thin film EL panel is divided (spectrum) by the color filters 8a, 8b and 8c of the red color, the green color and the blue color, it is seen that efficient green color emitting with high luminance was obtained as well as the red color and the blue color. Further, when comparing with the emitting spectrum of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, which is shown in Figure 4, although the overall luminance of this thin film EL panel compared to the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1 is somewhat lower, the emitting spectrum, which shall permeate through the blue color filter, is sharp and within the range of 450 to 500 nm, and it can be said that the purity of the blue color is good like the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 2.

[0088] As mentioned above, the emission layer of the thin film EL panel which is related to this implementation form is the white emission layer 11, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn / ZnS: Tm / Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn$ laminated layer film, therefore, the green color emitting component shall increase by 11a and 11c of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn$ layer within the white color emitting layer 11, and the same as the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, sufficient luminance ratio in order to make the RGB color display is obtained without increasing the pixel numbers of the green color emitting component, nor increasing the number of layers, which is laminated to the thin film, which shall compose the emission layer.

[0089] Further, because ZnS: Tm layer 11b is used for the blue emitting layer, the blue light, which is obtained by dividing (spectrum) the white light, which shall be emitted from the abovementioned white color emission layer 11 using the blue color filter 8c, shall have excellent purity.

[0090] 0.5 was chosen for the value of "X" in $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, however, as it is mentioned in the above, the most suitable value can be chosen considering the overall point such as film thickness ratio of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn and ZnS: Tm, permeating rate of each color filter of red, green and blue and emitting luminance balance, which it is trying to obtain, etc.

[0091] Also, the laminating order of each layer does not have to be same as the abovementioned white color emitting layer 11, which is $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn / ZnS: Tm / $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn, and for example, $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn / ZnS: Tm or ZnS: Tm / $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn / ZnS: Tm can also be acceptable. However, considering the polarity symmetry of emitting, it is better to have the up and down symmetrical structure.

[0092] Further, although Mn is used in here for the purpose of the emitting material of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 11a and 11c, which shall compose the white emission layer 11, Mn compound, such as MnF₂, etc., can also be used. In this case, Tm compound, such as TmF₃, etc., is used for the main emitting material of ZnS: Tm layer 11b, however, of course, Tm can be used instead.

[0093] Also, ZnS: Pr, etc., which shall contain the blue emitting component, can be used instead of ZnS: Tm.

[0094] [Implementation form 4] Concerning another form of the implementation of this invention, the explanations of Figure 9 and Figure 10 are as follows. As for the explanation, when the material used here has the same function as the material used in the abovementioned implementation form 1, 2 and 3, the same symbol shall be used and the explanation of those shall be omitted in here.

[0095] The thin film EL panel which is related to this invention is formed as shown in Figure 9 such as the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the yellow emission layer 12, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6 are laminated on top of

the glass substrate 1 in sequence, and the translucent insulation resin 7 is created covering all of the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the yellow emission layer 12, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6, except the edge side of the rear electrode 2, and the color filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color are created on this translucent insulation resin 7.

[0096] Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the abovementioned implementation form 1 had the white emission layer 4, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ / SrS : Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ for the emission layer, but the thin film EL panel of this implementation, it shall contain the yellow emission layer 12 of a single layer, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer, and it shall also contain the red color filter 8a and the green color filter 8b, which shall correspond to the yellow color. The yellow emission layer 12, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer shall have the emitting spectrum, which the peak wavelength is shifted to the shorter wavelength side by 15 nm compared to ZnS: Mn, and shall produce the blue emitting.

[0097] When AC voltage is applied between the two electrodes of 2 and 6, as it is mentioned before, Mn, which is for the main emitting material within the yellow emission layer 12, shall be excited, and would emit yellow light when they go back to the normal state. At this time, the light, which shall be emitted from the yellow emission layer 12, shall be divided (spectrum) by the color filter, and it shall be recognized as the red color light by permeating through the red color filter 8a, and it shall be recognized as the green color light by permeating through the green color filter 8b.

[0098] The thin film EL panel, which shall contain such yellow emission layer 12, shall be created as the procedure of below. First, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation 1, the rear electrode 2 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm and the first insulation layer 3 of approximately 200 nm shall be created.

[0099] Next, a $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to the mixture of 50 mol% of ZnS and 50 mol% of Mg, then the yellow emission layer 12, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer for approximately the thickness of 800 nm by the EB deposition method using this pellet.

[0100] After that, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, the second insulation layer 5 of the film thickness of approximately 200nm, the transparent electrode 6 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm, the translucent insulation resin 7 of the film thickness of approximately 20 μm and color filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color shall be created in this written order.

[0101] Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S layer, which is the yellow emission layer 12, which is created by the abovementioned method, also becomes the mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS. The emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is shown in Figure 10. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the solid line shows when the color

filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color were not combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dotted line shows when the red color filter 8a is combined, and the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed line shows when the green color filter 8b is combined.

[0102] From the emitting spectrum of Figure 10, when the yellow emitting of this thin film EL panel is divided (spectrum) by the color filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color, it shall be recognized that the red color and the green color emitting with sufficient luminance is obtained.

[0103] As it has been explained, the emission layer of the thin film EL element related to this implementation form is the yellow emission layer 12, which is composed of the single layer of the $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$ layer, and therefore, the green emitting component shall be more compared to the orange color emission layer, which is composed of the single layer of existing ZnS: Mn layer, and by bonding the color filter 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color to this, the red and green multi color thin film EL panel, which shall have sufficient luminance and purity of both red color and green color, can be obtained.

[0104] 0.5 was chosen for the value of "X" in $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, however, as it is mentioned in above, the most suitable value can be chosen considering the overall point such as film thickness ratio of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, permeating rate of each color filter of red and green, and emitting luminance balance, which it is trying to obtain, etc.

[0105] Further, although Mn is used in here for the purpose of the emitting material of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer, which shall compose the yellow emission layer 12, Mn compound such as MnF₂, etc. can also be used.

[0106] [Implementation form 5] Concerning another form of the implementation of this invention, the explanation of Figure 11 and Figure 12 are as follows. As to the explanation, when the material used here has the same function as the material used in the abovementioned implementation form 1, 2, 3 and 4, the same symbol shall be used and the explanation of those shall be omitted in here.

[0107] The thin film EL panel, which is related to this invention, is formed as shown in Figure 11 such as the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the yellow emission layer 13, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6 are laminated on top of the glass substrate 1 in sequence, and the translucent insulation resin 7 is created covering all of the rear electrode 2, the first insulation layer 3, the yellow emission layer 13, the second insulation layer 5 and the transparent electrode 6, except the edge side of the rear electrode 2, and the color filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color are created on this translucent insulation resin 7.

[0108] Therefore, the thin film EL panel of the abovementioned implementation form 1 had the white emission layer 4, which is composed of $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ / SrS : Ce / $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$ for the emission layer, but the thin film EL panel of this implementation

- shall contain the yellow emission layer 13, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn / ZnS: Mn / Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn laminated layer film, which is layered by <math>Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn$ layer 13a, ZnS: Mn layer 13b and $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn$ layer 13c, and shall have the color filter, which is contained in this, shall be the red color filter 8a and the green color filter 8b, which shall correspond to the yellow color. As it is mentioned before, ZnS: Mn layer 13b shall produce the orange emitting.
- [0109] When AC voltage is applied between the two electrodes of 2 and 6, as it is mentioned before, Mn, which is for the main emitting material, shall be excited, and would emit light when they go back to the normal state. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 13a and 13c shall emit the yellow light and ZnS: Mn layer 13b shall emit the orange light. At this time, the light, which shall be emitted from the yellow emission layer 13, shall be divided (spectrum) by the color filter, and it shall be recognized as the red color light by permeating through the red color filter 8a, and it shall be recognized as the green color light by permeating through the green color filter 8b.
- [0110] The thin film EL panel, which shall contain such yellow emission layer 13, shall be created as the procedure of below. First, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation 1, the rear electrode 2 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm and the first insulation layer 3 of approximately 200 nm shall be created.
- [0111] Next, a $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to the mixture of 50 mol% of ZnS and 50 mol% of Mg, then $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer of the lower side 13a for approximately the thickness of 200 nm shall be created by the EB deposition method using this pellet.
- [0112] Next, a ZnS: Mn pellet shall be created by sintering for 1 hour at 900 °C in the Ar gas atmosphere after applying pressure forming to the material, which 0.35 at% of Mn is added to ZnS, then ZnS: Mn layer 13b of the film thickness of approximately 400 nm shall be created by the EB deposition method using this pellet.
- [0113] Next, using the same process of the lower $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer, the upper $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 13c of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm shall be created.
- [0114] After that, using the same process of the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 1, the second insulation layer 5 of the film thickness of approximately 200nm, the transparent electrode 6 of the film thickness of approximately 200 nm, the translucent insulation resin 7 of the film thickness of approximately 20 μ m and color filters 8a and 8b of the red color and the green color shall be created in this written order.
- [0115] Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S layer 13a and 13c, which are created by the abovementioned method, also becomes the mixed crystal of ZnS and MgS. The emitting spectrum of the abovementioned thin film EL panel is shown in Figure 12. The characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the solid line shows when the color filters 8a and 8b of

the red color and the green color were not combined, the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dotted line shows when the red color filter 8a is combined, and the characteristic curve in the figure which is indicated as the dashed line shows when the green color filter 8b is combined.

- [0116] In this thin film EL panel, the emitting of Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn layer 13a and 13c, which shall have strong green emitting component, and the emitting of ZnS: Mn layer 13b, which shall have strong red emitting component shall overlap each other, and therefore, the emission shall become the broad emitting spectrum, which shall be expanded to the wavelength area of red and green, and the red emitting component is stronger compared to the emitting spectrum of the thin film EL panel of the abovementioned implementation form 4, which is shown in Figure 4.
- [0117] As it is mentioned, the emission layer of the thin film El panel related to this implementation form is the yellow emission layer 13, which is composed of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn / ZnS: Mn / Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S: Mn layer, therefore, the red emitting component is stronger compared to the thin film EL panel of the implementation form 4, which shall use the single emission layer of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer, and also, the green emitting component is stronger compared to the thin film EL panel, which shall use the single emission layer of ZnS: Mn layer, which shall mean that it can obtain better luminance and purity of both red and green compared to those thin film EL panels.
- [0118] 0.5 was chosen for the value of "X" in $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, however, as it is mentioned in above, the most suitable value can be chosen considering the overall point such as film thickness ratio of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn, permeating rate of each color filter of red and green, and emitting luminance balance, which it is trying to obtain, etc.
- [0119] Also, the laminating order of each layer does not have to be same as the abovementioned yellow color emission layer 13, which is $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S:Mn / ZnS:Mn / ZnS:$
- [0120] Further, although Mn is used in here for the purpose of the main emitting material of $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer 13a and 13c or ZnS: Mn layer 13b, which shall compose the **white** emission layer 13 (comment from the translator: this document states as "white", however, should it be "yellow" instead?), Mn compound such as MnF₂, etc. can also be used.
- [0121] Each of the abovementioned implementation forms shall have mentioned about the thin film EL panel, which is used as a display panel, however, it can also be used as a lighting panel. Each of the abovementioned implementation forms are made only to clarify the technical details of this invention, and therefore, it shall not be limited to these specific examples, but shall be able to use in various alternative implementation ways within the range of the patent Claim.

[0122]

[Effectiveness of the invention] The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 1 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kind of layer which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1) as the emission layer.

[0123] By this, the emitting spectrum shall have more green emitting component, and by combining the green color filter to the said thin film EL panel, it can obtain the green emitting of high purity and high luminance. As a result, when combining the red and green color filter to this thin film EL panel, such thin film EL panel, which shall emit high luminance red and green, and which also has high purity and has the emission layer as a single layer, can be obtained.

[0124] The thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 2 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Mn or Mn compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[0125] By this, the emitting spectrum shall become broad emitting spectrum of having a larger amount of both red color emitting component and green color emitting component, and when combining red and green color filter to the thin film EL panel, the purity and the luminance of the red color shall become higher compared to the emission layer structure of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS: Mn single layer, and also the purity and the luminance of the green color shall become higher compared to the emission layer structure of the existing ZnS: Mn single layer. As a result, when combining the red and green color filter to this thin film EL panel, such thin film EL panel, which shall emit high luminance red and green and also have high purity for both colors, can be obtained.

[0126] The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 3 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which is composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS (0<X<1), and the laminated layer which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS (0<X<1), Sr_{1-x}Ca_xS (0<X<1) or Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS (0<X<1).

[0127] By this, the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color to be obtained without increasing the pixel area of the green emitting pixels, nor improving emitting luminance of the green component by making more layers of green color emitting layer such as ZnS: Tb to the emission layer. As a result, when combining red, green and blue color filter to the thin film EL panel, it can obtain the thin film EL panel with high purity and having the ability to produce red, green and blue color emitting, which can be produced with low manufacturing costs and shall

have a simplified and shortened forming process as well as being able to secure reproducibility easily.

[0128] In addition to this, the abovementioned layer, which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrS, BaS, CaS, $Sr_{1-x}Ba_xS$ (0<X<1), $Sr_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1) or $Ba_{1-x}Ca_xS$ (0<X<1), shall have especially high luminance within the material, which contains blue emitting component, therefore, the luminance of the white emitting can be higher compared to the thin film EL panel of the invention of Claim 4 and Claim 5.

[0129] The thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 4 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of SrGa₂S₄, BaGa₂S₄, CaGa₂S₄, Sr₂Ga₂S₅, Ba₂Ga₂S₅ or Ca₂Ga₂S₅.

[0130] Also, the thin film electro luminescent panel which is mentioned in Claim 5 of this invention is characterized by having at least the kinds of layers which are composed of Mn or Mn compound added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$ (0<X<1), and the laminated layer, which shall be the layer which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS.

[0131] By this, the luminance ratio of red: green: blue = 3:7:1, which is necessary to obtain for the RGB color to be obtained without increasing the pixel area of the green emitting pixels, nor improving emitting luminance of the green component by making more layers of green color emitting layer such as ZnS: Tb to the emission layer. As a result, when combining red, green and blue color filter to the thin film EL panel, it can obtain the thin film EL panel with high purity and having the ability to produce red, green and blue color emitting, which can be produced with low manufacturing costs and shall have a simplified and shortened forming process as well as being able to secure reproducibility easily.

[0132] In addition to this, the layer, which either Ce or Ce compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of $SrGa_2S_4$, $BaGa_2S_4$, $CaGa_2S_4$, $Sr_2Ga_2S_5$, $Ba_2Ga_2S_5$ or $Ca_2Ga_2S_5$, and the layer which either Tm or Tm compound is added for the purpose of the main emitting device to the main material, which shall be composed of ZnS, shall have especially excellent blue purity within the material, which shall produce blue emitting. Therefore, it can have higher purity of blue color light compared to the thin film EL panel of this invention of Claim 3.

[0133] Concerning the structure which is mentioned in Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5 of the thin film electro luminescent panel, which is mentioned in Claim 6 of

this invention, shall have the color filter at the emitting surface, which makes spectrum of the light, which shall generate from the emission layer.

[0134] Concerning the thin film EL panel which is mentioned in Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, it shall have the color filter on the emitting surface side to make spectrum of light, which produces from the emission layer, therefore, for example, by setting the red color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of red color, or by setting the green color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of green color, or by setting the red and the green color filters, it can become a multi color display panel or a multi color lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of both red and green color. Also, especially in the case of the thin film EL panel which is mentioned in Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, by setting the blue color filter, it can become a display panel or a lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of blue color, and by setting the red, the green and the blue color filters, it can become a multi color display panel or a multi color lighting panel, which shall have good emitting luminance and purity of all of red, green and blue color as well as being able to correspond to the use of full color display.

[Simple explanation of the figures]

[Figure 1] It is a cross section figure of the outline structure of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 1 of this invention.

[Figure 2] It is a figure of x-ray diffraction pattern of $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn (X = 0.5), which shall have the Wurtzite crystal structure.

[Figure 3] It is a figure to explain the relationship between the band gap energy and the distance between the lattices concerning each compound of the flash zinc crystal structure.

[Figure 4] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 1 ($Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn / SrS:Ce/Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S:Mn$ layered film).

[Figure 5] It is a cross section figure of the outline structure of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 2 of this invention.

[Figure 6] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form $2 (Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S : Mn / CaGa_2S_4 : Ce / Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S : Mn layered film).$

[Figure 7] It is a cross section figure of the outline structure of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 3 of this invention.

[Figure 8] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form $3 (Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S : Mn / ZnS : Tm / Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S : Mn layered film).$

[Figure 9] It is a cross section figure of the outline structure of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 4 of this invention.

[Figure 10] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form $4 (Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S : Mn \text{ single layer film})$.

[Figure 11] It is a cross section figure of the outline structure of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form 5 of this invention.

[Figure 12] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer of the thin film EL panel related to the implementation form $5 (Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S : Mn / ZnS : Mn / Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S : Mn layered film).$

[Figure 13] It is a figure to indicate the comparison of each emitting wavelength of ZnS: Mn layer and $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xS$: Mn layer.

[Figure 14] It is a figure to indicate the emitting spectrum of the emission layer, which is composed of ZnS: Mn / SrS: Ce / ZnS: Mn laminated film

[Figure 15] It is a figure to indicate the permeable rate characteristics of each color filter of red color, green color and blue color.

[Figure 16] It is a figure to indicate the emitting wavelength of the emission layer material, which shall produce the blue emission.

[Explanation of the symbols]

- 1. Glass substrate
- 2. Rear electrode
- 3. The first insulation layer
- 4. White emission layer
- 4a. $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer
- 4b. SrS: Ce layer
- 4c. $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S$: Mn layer
- 5. The second insulation layer
- 6. Transparent electrode
- 7. Translucent insulation resin
- 8a. Red color filter
- 8b. Green color filter
- 8c. Blue color filter
- 10. White emission layer
- 10a. Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S: Mn layer

10b. CaGa₂S₄: Ce layer

10c. $Zn_{0.75}Mg_{0.25}S: Mn$ layer

11. White emission layer

11a. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer

11b. ZnS: Tm layer

11c. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer

12. Yellow emission layer

13. Yellow emission layer

13a. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer

13b. ZnS: Mn layer

13c. $Zn_{0.5}Mg_{0.5}S$: Mn layer

[Figure 1]

[Figure 2]

Vertical: Diffraction intensity (A.U.) Horizontal: Diffraction angle 20 [°]

[Figure 3]

Vertical: Distance between lattices (Å) Horizontal: Band gap energy (eV)

Flash zinc crystal style, 77K (in the figure)

[Figure 4]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dashed-dot line: Red color filter Dotted line: Green color filter Dashed line: Blue color filter [Figure 5]

[Figure 6]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

[Figure 7]

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dashed-dot line: Red color filter Dotted line: Green color filter Dashed line: Blue color filter

[Figure 9]

[Figure 8]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dashed-dot line: Red color filter Dotted line: Green color filter Dashed line: Blue color filter

[Figure 11]

[Figure 10]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dotted line: Red color filter Dashed line: Green color filter [Figure 12]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dotted line: Red color filter Dashed line: Green color filter

[Figure 14]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Solid line: Without color filter Dashed-dot line: Red color filter Dotted line: Green color filter Dashed line: Blue color filter [Figure 13]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

[Figure 15]

Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.) Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)

In the figure:

Dashed-dot line: Red color filter Solid line: Green color filter Dashed line: Blue color filter

[Figure 16]
Vertical: Emitting intensity (a.u.)
Horizontal: Wavelength (nm)